

PERSECUTION OF AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

Monthly Report July 2023



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Highlights

FROM 1984* TILL DEC 31, 2022



DURING 2022



DURING THE YEAR 2023

- One Ahmadi brutally murdered on religious grounds.
- Ahmadi lawyer critically injured in a cleaver attack and another senior Ahmadi advocate beaten up and arrested under blasphemy clauses for having 'Syed' in his name.
- Ahmadi leader arrested from the headquarters of Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan.
- Ahmadi arrested for listening to the Holy Quran, another Ahmadi leader booked under blasphemy clause.
- 15 Ahmadis booked under anti-Ahmadiyya laws during May. 26 Ahmadis booked under blasphemy laws and 7 arrested during Jun. Another Ahmadi elder arrested in Jul
- 10 Ahmadiyya Mosques attacked, minarets of another mosque concealed by a wall, another prayer centre besieged by a violent mob. Another mosque sealed by the authorities in July.
- Burial of two Ahmadi ladies denied in a common cemetery in Jan & Jul. 19 gravestones destroyed.
- Sacred inscriptions removed from three Ahmadi houses.
- Two Ahmadi students expelled from school.

In the face of adversity, the Ahmadiyya Muslim community's unwavering spirit shines as a beacon of resilience and peace.

The removal of minarets from an Ahmadiyya mosque by the police, an act driven by external pressure, stands as a stark reminder of the challenges that Ahmadis regularly encounter. It is deeply disheartening to witness a mosque, echoing the message of 'Love for all, hatred for none', become a target of intolerance.

From the unsettling removal of minarets in Punjab and the sealing of another mosque in Sindh, to the desecration of 16 gravestones – including those of distinguished elders and companions of the Ahmadiyya community's founder – the extent of intolerance is truly distressing. The denial of burial rights further highlights a striking incongruity with the nation's ideals of unity.

The convergence of these challenges, alongside unsettling threats where no one takes any action, paints a troubling picture. These incidents raise concerns about societal harmony and justice.

Yet, amidst these trials, the Ahmadiyya community remains resolutely loyal citizens of the nation.

The incidents outlined in this report are a call to action for all of us to uphold the values of compassion, tolerance, and unity.

DID YOU KNOW?

AHMADIS FACE THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT UNDER FEDERAL LAWS FOR:

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

AHMADIS HAVE TO DECLARE THEMSELVES
NON-MUSLIM
TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE AND STAND FOR ELECTION

SEE PAGE 18 FOR DETAILS ON VOTING RIGHT FOR AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

* SINCE THE PROMULGATION OF ORDINANCE XX

POLICE DESTROY AHMADIYYA MOSQUE'S MINARETS — ON ORDERS OF EXTREMISTS

Jhelum, Punjab; July 14, 2023:

We issued an Immediate Release on July 15 on the above incident. We reproduce the same as part of this monthly report. (next page)

It is noteworthy and must be placed on record that the Punjab authorities undertook this sacrilege a week after the following important pronouncement of the statutory body, National Commission for Human Rights:



HRCF, an independent prestigious human rights commission was quick to take notice of this incident in Jhelum, and tweeted the following on July 17, 2023:



The ANI, in its update on this incident on July 17, added the following rather suggestively: "Meanwhile, the TLP has stated that they had informed the police about their sentiments in accordance with the Constitution and law, and the police took action on their own, adding that no individual took the law into their own hands. (ANI)"



AHMADIYYA MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE
Tasbeer Office: Ginnani Chowk Block, Islamabad-22, Shearpankhani Lane, Tilford, Surrey GU10 2AQ, UK



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 15, 2023

AHMADIYYA MOSQUE IN PAKISTAN DESECRATED
THREATS ISSUED BY TLP MEMBER

THE MOSQUE BORE AHMADIYYA MOTTO 'LOVE FOR ALL, HATRED FOR NONE'

Jhelum, July 14, 2023 – We report with deep distress and condemnation the desecration of an Ahmadiyya mosque in Kala Gajran, Dist. Jhelum, Stockpiling, the minarets of the mosque were demolished by the police, succumbing to pressure from members of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP).

This despicable act was carried out under the threats and campaigning by extremist elements in the area aimed at targeting Ahmadiyya mosques. A few days ago, Asim Ashfaq Rizvi, a member of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), openly threatened the DPO Jhelum that if the minarets were not demolished within twenty days, he would mobilize people to forcefully bring them down (video & transcript).

Subsequently on July 14, 2023, the local Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) summoned the management of the Ahmadiyya mosque and demanded the voluntary destruction of the minarets, threatening police action if they refused.

Despite the efforts of the local Ahmadi community to engage in a dialogue with the police regarding the legality of the construction of the minarets, their pleas were disregarded.



Before



After

In a deeply troubling turn of events, a police squad arrived at the Ahmadiyya mosque around midnight. The officers confiscated the mobile phones of Ahmadiyas present and detained them briefly at the Jhelum City Police Station. They proceeded to tear down the minarets, leaving the place of worship desecrated. Additionally, they completely damaged the CCTV system. After completing the destruction of the minarets, the detained members of the Ahmadiyya Community were released.

¹ <https://twitter.com/AsimAshfaqRizvi/status/1680132001949272736>
HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION / TASBEER
Islamabad@tasbeer.org
+44 (0) 20 3988 3862

The Ahmadiyya Muslim community strongly condemns this act of violence, religious intolerance, and the misuse of authority by the police. This incident marks the 10th attack during 2023 and the 45th attack on Ahmadiyya mosques since January 2020, highlighting the ongoing persecution faced by the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Pakistan. Last year alone, 14 Ahmadiyya mosques were targeted and desecrated, while in 2021, 14 mosques, and a further 7 in 2020.

It is important to highlight that the mosque, apart from being a place of worship, prominently displayed the Ahmadiyya motto "Love for All, Hatred for None" on its front wall. This motto represents the Ahmadiyya Community's commitment to love, peace, and inclusivity, transcending religious differences and fostering unity among all humanity. Ahmadiyas firmly believe in promoting love and compassion, rejecting hatred and animosity towards any individual or group.

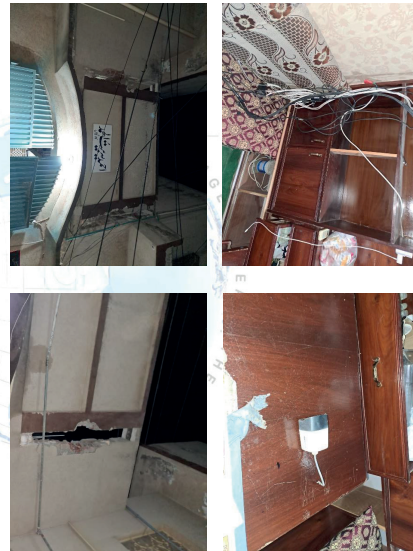
This incident further underscores the challenges faced by religious minorities in Pakistan, particularly Ahmadiyas, who have endured targeted persecution for years. This collaboration between law enforcement agencies and extremist elements is deplorable, reflecting a disturbing trend of hatred and intolerance. It serves as a stark reminder of the obstacles encountered by religious minorities and the urgent need for their protection and security.

In response to this incident, the spokesperson of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan expressed, "The administration's decision to demolish the minarets of our Place of Worship, instead of safeguarding the Ahmadiyas, is deeply disturbing and a blatant affront to the rights of the Ahmadiyya Community. It is distressing to witness such actions taken to appease hate mongers, undermining the principles of religious freedom and tolerance."

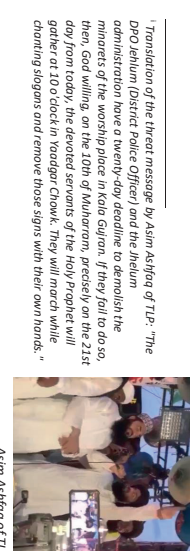
The spokesperson further stated, "We would like to highlight that the Supreme Court, through SMC No. 1 of 2012², issued guidelines for the protection of places of worship, emphasizing the establishment of a specialized police force for their security. We urge the authorities to uphold these guidelines, thoroughly investigate this incident, and hold those responsible accountable for their actions. The Ahmadiyya Community remains steadfast in its commitment to peace, harmony, and the motto of 'Love for All, Hatred for None.'"

We call upon the global community to condemn the limitations on religious freedom and pressure the Pakistan government to swiftly implement measures ensuring the safety and security of Ahmadiyas. Additionally, upholding the fundamental rights of all individuals, including Ahmadiyas, will foster an inclusive society and bring long-term benefits to Pakistan. Together, let us advocate for equality, justice, and the protection of religious minorities.

² <https://www.dawateislami.net/2012/05/04/>
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Some pictures of the incident



Asim Ashfaq of TLP

¹ Translation of the threat message by Asim Ashfaq of TLP: "The DPO Jhelum District Police Officer and the Jhelum administration have a twenty-day deadline to demolish the minarets of the worship place in Kala Gajran. If they fail to do so, then, God willing, on the 10th of Muharram, precisely on the 21st day from today, the devoted servants of the Holy Prophet will gather at 10 o'clock in Voadgar Chowk. They will march while chanting slogans and remove those signs with their own hands."

VANDALS DESTROY THE MINARETS OF THE PLACE OF WORSHIP

Lalian; June 10, 2023:

The following news item was published in the daily Dawn:



Ahmadi place of worship vandalized in Karachi

Imtiaz Ali

An Ahmadi place of worship was vandalized in Karachi's Drigh Road area within the limits of Shah Faisal Colony, police and spokesperson for the community said on Tuesday.

Korangi Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Tariq Nawaz told Dawn.com that around four persons damaged the minarets on Monday.

He said that police had taken cognisance of the matter and asked a member of the community to lodge a first information report (FIR).

The senior officer said that a person identified as Bilal was in touch with the Shah Faisal Colony station house officer (SHO) till Monday night and officials had advised him to lodge a report.

He said that police had received an application regarding the vandalism, adding that the complainant stated that an FIR would be registered after consulting with the Ahmadi community.

Amir Mehmood, a spokesperson for the Ahmadi community, also said that an application for registering a FIR had been submitted to the police.

The spokesperson said around a dozen people had entered the place of worship at around 3:45 pm on Monday and destroyed the minarets with hammers and put "hateful graffiti on the walls". He recalled that a few months ago, two (Ahmadiyya) places of worship in Saddar and Martin Quarters were vandalised. He said that FIRs were registered in both the cases but police had yet to inform them of the progress in either of them.

He said that the place of worship in Drigh Road had existed since Pakistan was created. "The government has utterly failed to provide security to Ahmadi places of worship," Mehmood said. Govt urged to provide security

Separately, a press release from the Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan spokesperson called on the government to provide security to the community's places of worship.

Strongly condemning the incident, the spokesperson said the community's opponents had "crossed all limits of decency" and the "hate campaign against Ahmadis now knows no bounds". "As many as 10 Ahmadi places of worship have been attacked during the current year and so far, none of the aggressors have been held," the press release said.

The spokesperson said Ahmadis were feeling "an extreme sense of insecurity" while living in their own homeland, and the actions of hatemongers were ruining the country's international

image.

"It is high time that such hate mongers are put behind bars so they cannot undermine the fabric of religious harmony in the country any further."

The spokesperson claimed that miscreants had "finalised plans to attack the Ahmadi places of worship" in various cities and towns across the country in Muharram, adding that announcements for such attacks were being openly made on social media platforms.

The press release said it was the government's responsibility to arrange security for the community's worship places so miscreants were unable to harm them.

Anti-Ahmadi drive invites UN bodies' ire

The drive against the Ahmadi community, which has become a regular feature in Punjab, is not only bringing a bad name to the country, but also inviting the ire of UN bodies.

After a campaign last month to stop Ahmadis from offering sacrifice on Eidul Azha, the latest drive launched against the community involves demolition of the minarets of their places of worship. The drive is being spearheaded by the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP).

A poster floated by the social media wing of the TLP in Sarai Alamgir, a town near Jhelum, said: "From Shaandar Chowk to the Qadiani Centre, all minarets will be demolished." The drive, the poster said, would commence at 10 am on the 10th of Muharram (July 29) from the TLP's office in Sarai Alamgir.

On July 14, the TLP pressured police into demolishing minarets of an Ahmadi place of worship in Jhelum. The party's local chapter later announced that it would demolish minarets of all Ahmadi places of worship in the entire Jhelum district.

Some of these sites are more than a hundred years old.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) expressed concern over the treatment of Ahmadis in Pakistan and asked the government to respond to allegations of violations of international law.

The OHCHR said in its letter: "We would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government the information we have received concerning growing discrimination and rising incidents of hate speech and incitement to violence against the Ahmadi religious minority in Pakistan, including attacks against places of worship and other acts of intimidation."

The letter was submitted to Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

"We are deeply concerned about this series of violent attacks against the Ahmadi minority, which we have previously addressed in several communications that despite our requests for remedial actions from authorities, the safety of the Ahmadiyya minority continues to deteriorate," the OHCHR letter said.

(Published in the daily Dawn on July 25, 2023)

AHMADI ELDER ARRESTED IN THARPARKAR AFTER SUPREME COURT REJECTS HIS BAIL

Nagar Parkar, District Tharparkar; July 7, 2023:

Four Ahmadis including Mubashar Ahmad (president of the local Ahmadiyya community), along with three of their Hindu relatives were booked in a baseless case on December 27, 2022, in Nagar Parkar police station. Their pre-arrest bail was approved. On January 10, 2023, Additional Sessions Judge Mithi, District Tharparkar rejected Mubashar's plea for bail confirmation. An appeal was filed against this

decision in Sindh High Court where they rejected his bail request. An appeal was then filed in the Karachi Registry of the Supreme Court which also rejected his plea on June 30, 2023. No arrest was made so far and the Sessions Court was likely to issue his warrants as a proclaimed offender. On July 7, 2023, he presented himself before the Sessions Court where the police took him into custody and sent him to prison.

AHMADIYYA MOSQUE SEALED, AND POLICE CASE REGISTERED AGAINST AHMADIS

Chak No. 24, District Sanghar; July 8, 2023:

Dr. Azhar Iqbal (local president of the Ahmadiyya Community) undertook the renovation of his residence. There is a mosque within the premises. The repair of the niche of the mosque was also undertaken. Availing the opportunity, the opponents objected to the minarets and the niche, wrongfully arguing that Ahmadis are not allowed to have these in their places of worship (sic). They agitated on social media and gathered a mob from the neighboring villages at the site. The mulla leading the miscreants made intensive hate speeches, demanded the demolition of the structure, and threatened to take the law into their own hands.

On July 4, 2023, the DSP and SHO visited the site, they were informed that the mosque was an old structure (pre-dating the anti-Ahmadi laws) so were its minarets and niche.

Despite this, the police sealed the mosque and registered a criminal case against Dr. Azhar Iqbal and his brother Mr. Mazhar Iqbal under sections 295-A, 298-C, and 298-B(1)(D) of the Pakistan Penal Code. The latter is a high-level community official and lives in Rabwah, hundreds of kilometers away. The penal code applied provides for up to ten-year imprisonment to the victims. The police claimed that the registration of the case was essential to calm down the mob and remove the threat to law and order.

NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER TO GRANT AHMADIS THEIR VOTING RIGHTS

Islamabad; July 26, 2023:

The federal government managed to have several bills passed in the joint session of the parliament. One of these was regarding numerous amendments to the Elections Act. The press reported that 54 items were taken up. However, the one item that, in our opinion was the most important, was not even suggested; it was facilitating Ahmadis voting rights in a genuine joint electorate.

“We have done this work diligently, in the national interest and taking it as a service to the country,” the law minister said. “Neither any ill intention can be attributed to it nor any unnecessary haste.” Arab News, updated July 25, 2023 <https://arab.news/mzhq3>

It has become quite obvious that powers that be are quite capable of getting through anything, that they desire, through the parliament; and the voting rights for Ahmadis as per the Constitution are not on their ‘Action List’.

TENSION IN DISTRICT BAHAWALNAGAR AHMADIYYA MOSQUES UNDER THREAT

District Bahawalnagar; July 2023:

Nowadays, opponents are filing complaints against Kalima inscription in Ahmadiyya mosques and their minarets and niches. District Bahawalnagar is facing this ordeal as four

of its mosques are under grave threat—both from the police and the religious bigots.

The opponents demanded the police destroy the niches and minarets of Ahmadiyya mosques in 160 Murad, 168 Murad, and Chak

Number 9 Fordwah. The opponents invited an outsider mulla and attacked the Ahmadiyya mosque but fortunately, they could not succeed in their heinous goal. The DSP Chistian insisted that the Community demolish the niche and minarets itself, but Ahmadis refused to do that. A delegation of Ahmadis then met

the DC and DPO, and conveyed their view and concern. They also filed an application over the issue.

In Chak 191-7R, on the direction of the police, Ahmadis had to cover the minarets, niche, and Kalima inscription by erecting a wall around them.

TOMBSTONES OF SENIOR AHMADI ELDERS SMASHED TO PIECES IN JHELUM, PUNJAB

PR of IHRC; July 19, 2023: International Human Rights Committee issued the following press release on July 19, 2023 and Kalima inscription by erecting a wall around them.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE Ensuring Justice for All
IHRC/PR/190723/5
19 July 2023

PRESS RELEASE

TOMBSTONES OF AHMADI MUSLIMS SMASHED INTO PIECES IN VILE ATTACK ON GRAVEYARD IN JHELUM, PAKISTAN

Graves of Ahmadi Muslims have once again been desecrated and vandalised in a malicious and senseless attack by vigilantes' elements in Pakistan.

The grievous attack took place on 16th July 2023 in Mehmoodabad, a town near Jhelum city.

Unknown assailants attacked the tombstones of two graves in a combine graveyard. The tombstones were smashed into pieces and splashed with black paint obscuring the writing on the tombstone.

The graves belong to two senior elders of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. There was a protective boundary constructed around these graves, but even that was damaged.

Persecution against Ahmadis has ramped up as of late, as the IHRC has reported almost daily incidents against the minority group. Graveyard vandalism has been a favoured tactic of the anti-Ahmadi element in Pakistan for years. This shameful tactic means Ahmadis are not free from persecution even after their death.

This must be stopped at all costs and the perpetrators and brought to justice immediately. Unfortunately, there is no simple solution as the government and authorities encourage this behavior. They must be discouraged from using cheap tactics to achieve political gain.

IHRC has continuously raised our voice since many months over attacks on Ahmadiyya Muslims places of worship and graves. Attacks on their members have intensified. Most have come to light through social media and International NGOs.

Unfortunately, the persecution against Ahmadis has ramped up as of late, as the IHRC has reported almost daily incidents against the minority group. Graveyard vandalism has been a favoured tactic of the Anti-Ahmadi element in Pakistan for years. This shameful tactic means Ahmadis are not free from persecution even after their death.

We once again strongly urge the international community to impress upon the Government of Pakistan the need to discharge any absurd cases against Ahmadis and release all held in custody and thus honor its responsibility to provide effective protection and freedom of religious practice to Ahmadis, and ensure that perpetrators of such vicious actions should be brought to justice, to bring its laws and practices in conformity with international standards as ordained by Article 20 and United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 2, 18, and 20, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Article 25, 26.

END



Molvi Burhanuddin Sahib Jehlmi 1830-1905
He himself faced great opposition for being an Ahmadi in his life time



Molvi Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib



Karam Bibi Sahiba
wife of Molvi Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib

BRUTALITY IN BHERA

Bhera, District Sargodha; July 24, 2023:

Bhera is important in Ahmadiyya history as the first Caliph of the Ahmadiyya Community hailed from this town. Nowadays, some Ahmadis live there and are content with their historical mosque complex.

In the year 2021, Ahmadis undertook essential repairs to their mosque. The opponents approached the police, and on their orders, the repair work was stayed. A joint committee was formed that decided that the roof could be repaired, but no repairs would be undertaken to the minarets and the niche. The administration unabashedly undertook the destruction of the Kalima in the yard and the hall of the mosque.

More recently, Ahmadis undertook repairs to the adjacent missionary house. On July 23, the mullas took out a rally and demanded a stoppage of the repair work and the removal of the minarets.

The next day, the AC and DSP Bhera sent for the Ahmadi elders. On arrival, they found that

mullas and their media personnel were also present. The administration appeared to be impotent in the presence of mullas, so after some nominal discussion they made Ahmadis sign the following terms, inter alia:

- The tablet on which *Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim* is written, and also other Islamic material will be removed from the Qadiani mosque in the presence of a member of the municipal committee, the police, and the town committee.
- The minarets of the Qadiani mosque will be reverted to the pre-repairs state.
- The constructed caping (mundair) in the Qadiani mosque would be removed.
- Qadianis will undertake and complete all these actions by August 15, 2023.

Mr. Mohsin Naqvi is the chief minister in the Punjab and Mr. Shehbaz Sharif heads the PDM federal government in Islamabad.

THREE GRAVES DESECRATED

Nadheri Bala, Kotli AJK; July 5, 2023:

There has been an increase in the hate campaign against Ahmadiyya community in Kotli AJK. On July 5, unidentified miscreants destroyed the tombstones of three graves of Ahmadis in the common graveyard of Qazian Chowk. One of the desecrated graves was a very old one, that of Hazrat Qazi Feroz Din, a Companion of the Promised Messiah.



Qazi Feroz Din Sahib - Companion of the founder of the Ahmadiyya Community

TEN AHMADIYYA GRAVESTONES VANDALIZED BY THE AUTHORITIES

Kajar, District Sheikhpura; July 1, 2023:

The district administration vandalized 10 more Ahmadiyya gravestones — this time in District Sheikhpura.

The situation of Ahmadis had been deteriorating here for some time. Some people objected to the sacred verses on Ahmadiyya gravestones and filed an application to the authorities.

In this regard, a meeting of elders decided to allot one kanal area separately to Ahmadis for their cemetery and leave the issue of tomb-

stones to the authorities. Ahmadis were not taken in confidence nor informed before nor after the desecration.

Subsequently, the administration dug out the tombstones and took them away.

This is not the first incident of demolition of Ahmadiyya graves in Sheikhpura district. Earlier, on July 13, 2020, 42 Ahmadi graves were vandalized by religious bigots under police supervision. Two such incidents happened in 2021 when eight graves were desecrated there.



AUDACIOUS ULTIMATUM TO THE STATE; TLP DEMANDS DEMOLITION OF MINARETS OF AN AHMADIYYA MOSQUE

Sangla Hill, District Nankana; 14 July 2023:

TLP (Tehrik e Labbaik Pakistan) arranged a protest rally here recently against the sacrilege of the Holy Quran in Sweden. Therein they delivered anti-Ahmadi speeches also. The next day, an announcement circulated on social media that "Tehrik e Labbaik Pakistan PP 131 gives an ultimatum to the authorities to destroy the minarets of the Qadiani worship place by 15th of Muharram, situated on Faisalabad Road, we would otherwise announce our next plan of action" The announcement was made by Qari Tasawwar Hussain, Ameer Tehrik e Labbaik Pakistan PP 131.

The SHO of the City Police Station sent for the Ahmadi delegation on July 18 and told them that mullas had come to the police station and demanded the demolition of the minarets. He told the president of the local Ahmadiyya community to sign an affidavit that in adherence to the Constitution of Pakistan, Ahmadis would not construct their worship place resembling a mosque, and if there were any constructed minaret, they would cover it. The SHO gave 4-5 days to complete the task. Under stress and pressure, the president complied with this unlawful order. Ahmadis covered the minarets with a fiber shed so that they could not be seen from the outside.

UPDATE ON FREEDOM OF PRACTICE OF FAITH (QURBANI) TO AHMADIS IN THE COUNTRY

June/July 2023:

In our report for June 2023, the major story was the denial of the religious rite of Qurbani to Ahmadis in Pakistan on the occasion of their religious festival of Eid-ul-Adha. The issue was hot at the turn of the month, so the story could not be concluded, as important reports kept on arriving in July. Here we mention a few selected items, as supplementary to the June report.

An important input was a Press Release issued by the Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan, the Ahmadiyya head office in the country. We reproduce the same below (translated from Urdu):

Press Release

Stopping Ahmadis from practicing their faith is a gross human rights violation. Frivolous cases were registered against Ahmadis; one was accused of blasphemy.

The members of the Ahmadiyya community cannot even practice their faith within the 4 walls of their homes — a gross violation of the Supreme Court's ruling.

Chenab Nagar (PR): The incidents of forcibly stopping Ahmadis to sacrifice animals on the auspicious occasion of Eid ul Adha increased manifold this year. Across Pakistan, vigilantes marked houses of Ahmadiyya community members and the police were right by their side supporting and aiding their efforts. Without any legal authority, these vigilantes attacked Ahmadis' houses, trespassed the premises of various homes, broke into properties, and threatened and manhandled many members. This atrocity did not end there as the police at the behest of these vigilantes registered frivolous cases against members of the Ahmadiyya community. The majority of Ahmadis were deprived to offer the Eid ul Adha prayer as well. These actions by the police and vigilantes were a contravention of the fundamental rights under Article 20 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Such acts were also in violation and utter disregard of the Supreme Court ruling (in the year 2022) in the case Cr1.P.916-L/2021, dated 12th Jan 2021, passed by Honorable Mr. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah and Mr. Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan. The Supreme Court, in the said judgment, categorically declared that Ahmadis are allowed to practice their faith freely within the four walls. Regardless of this clear order from the Supreme Court, the police appeased the vigilantes instead of protecting the rights of persecuted Ahmadiyya community.

- 23 applications and complaints were submitted in various police stations to stop Ahmadis from slaughtering animals.
- To appease the extremist vigilantes, the Punjab Police harassed Ahmadis at 89 places and urged them to not slaughter the sacrificial animals.
- At 4 places, Ahmadis were barred from offering Eid prayer.
- There were 28 surety bonds that Ahmadis were forced to submit.
- A police inspector in Gujrat publicly announced through the loud-speaker of a mosque that it is essential to become a Muslim before slaughtering an animal, directly validating the point of extremist vigilantes.
- 13 Ahmadis have been booked in 6 cases, whereas 7 Ahmadis are arrested in various districts.
- 10 animals were illegally taken into custody by the police.
- 5 Ahmadi houses were illegally searched by the police, breaching their fundamental right to privacy of home, and the meat was illegally taken into possession by the police.
- On 11 occasions, Ahmadis were harassed and intimidated by the miscreants.

The spokesman of the Ahmadiyya Community said that these gross violations of the human rights of Ahmadis were committed by the extremist vigilantes, with the backing of state

functionaries including police. This is happening in the sacred name of religion, in contrast to what the government of Pakistan states internationally. On one side the government is silent on these atrocities at home and on the other hand the same government is concerned about similar events of persecution in other countries. We demand that all these baseless and frivolous cases against Ahmadis must be dismissed immediately, and all the innocent Ahmadis be released without delay. Moreover, all the measures should be taken to uphold the right of freedom of religion of Ahmadis. END

The ongoing atrocities committed against Ahmadis by the state authorities and the mullas were the result of a hate campaign run by the TLP and the like. Even the civil society noticed it and the fair press took note of it and made editorial comments. The daily Dawn wrote one on July 25, which we reproduce in Annex I.



National Commission for Human Rights
@nchrofficial

Ahmadiyyas are citizens of Pakistan and are entitled to protection by the Govt. Open vandalism against their homes, graveyards & businesses must be stopped by the district administration. No one has the authority to perpetual violence against any citizen with impunity.

11:17 AM · Jul 6, 2023 · 79.5K Views

282 Retweets 22 Quotes 636 Likes 10 Bookmarks

Also very relevant is the important statement tweeted by a state body, the National Commission for Human Rights.

Various media outlets reported this story of Qurbani and made comments. A readable report was rendered by Mr. Zia ur Rahman from Lahore on <https://d2nxu8ddenvtvf.cloudfront.net/a/ahmadi-community-reservations-over-eid-rituals-14jul2023/7180872.html>. In this, he mentions the following important opposite opinion (our translation of Urdu original):

State laws apply to everyone

Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi, Chairman of Pakistan Ulama Council and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Inter-Religious Harmony, says that he agrees with granting civil rights to all minorities, including Ahmadis, according to the Constitution and law of Pakistan. But all minorities should respect the Constitution and laws of the state of Pakistan.

Talking to the Voice of America, he said that all the countries of the world have laws and a Constitution; in the same way, Pakistan also has laws and a Constitution. This Constitution is not only that of Pakistan, it is the Constitution of Islam that those who deny the End of Prophethood are not Muslim.

Allama Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi said that as far as the issue of Qurbani and places of worship of the Ahmadi community is concerned, the Constitution of Pakistan says that such persons or groups should not use the name of Islam. Such people cheat by using Islamic rituals (Shaair), so action is taken against them.

He further said that Qurbani is an Islamic ritual and as far as the Qurbani by the Ahmadiyya community is concerned, they may perform the Qurbani ten days before or ten days after Eid-ul-Azha, to that no one would object.

Our comment:

Ahmadis in Pakistan accord due respect to the Constitution and laws of Pakistan, and concede that as per the Constitution and laws of the country, they are non-Muslim; however, they are not obligated to agree with this imposed identity. The Constitution itself provides the procedure to make amendments to it, which proves that while the citizens have to abide by the Constitution, they may differ with some of its provisions and seek amendment.

Secondly, the Honorable Assistant to the PM has offered that if Ahmadis undertake Qurbani 10 days before or after Eid ul Adha, he would have no objection to that. If the citizens have to practice their religion only as per dictates of the state, then whither Human Rights and whither freedom of religion as mentioned in Art. 20 of the Constitution:

“... a) every citizen shall have the right to profess, practice and propagate his religion; ...”

POLICE BUSY ARRANGING DEMOLITION OF MINARETS IN DISTRICT VEHARI

District Vehari; July 2023:

The police came to the Ahmadiyya mosque in Chak Number 543 EB, and told Ahmadis that the public has objections to the minarets of their mosque. They told Ahmadis to demolish there. Ahmadis asked the police to show them an official order, which they failed to produce. Ahmadis made it clear to them that they would not undertake such an act themselves.

As per the latest update, the community elders finally told the police that they will not destroy the minarets and niche of their mosque. So, on July 24, the DSP and SHO came over to the village. Ahmadis asked non-Ahmadi elders to come over too. When the police repeated

their demand, these elders opposed the demand and supported the Ahmadis, and told the police that they were disturbing the peace of the village. The police, however, were not dissuaded. So, Ahmadis told them that they would further consult the concerned people. The issue remains open.

Similarly, the police, on the demand of extremists, pressurized Ahmadis to remove the minarets of their mosque in Chak Number 373 EB, in the same district. They made Ahmadis comply with their demand by covering up the minarets with some sort of structure around them. The mulla and the state asked for it.

LATEST ON ELDERLY AHMADI LAWYER IN KARACHI, ARRESTED OVER 'SYED' PREFIX IN HIS NAME

Karachi; July 2023:

We reported earlier in our report for April 2023 the police case against Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq, Ahmadi, a 77-year-old senior advocate of the Supreme Court, and his arrest. A brief update is given below.

Mr. Tariq was targeted for being an Ahmadi. The police booked him on April 27, 2023, under anti-Ahmadiyya law PPC-298-C, for using the prefix 'Syed' in his name.

Mr. Tariq was sent to jail on judicial remand. He had difficulty in finding a lawyer to defend him. Eventually, Tariq found Advocate Salahuddin who submitted his post-arrest bail application to the Sindh High Court (SHC).

Before the date of the hearing of his bail plea a group of the opponent lawyers launched a hostile campaign on social media against Ahmadis, Mr. Justice Omar Sial, and Advocate Salahuddin. As a result, they gathered around seventy lawyers in the courtroom. They shouted anti-Ahmadi slogans, indulged in violence and severely beat up Advocate Suleman Mirza, an associate of Advocate Salahuddin, and injured him severely in the face.

The next day, Honorable Mr. Justice Sial

passed the order that expressed his displeasure over the conduct of the agitating lawyers; he told the relevant bar associations to take appropriate action against the members who had indulged in 'the unacceptable behavior'. His Order Sheet is a landmark document.

On May 23, Justice Sial granted post-arrest bail to Syed Tariq. But another issue was brought up.

A police case was registered against Syed Tariq 30 years ago, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C in police station Shahdadpur, District Sanghar for saying Islamic greetings. (FIR is at Annex II) This case was still pending. The opponents approached the civil judge/judicial magistrate Shahdadpur for this pending case who issued production orders against Syed Tariq. A hearing of this case is now scheduled in Shahdad Court, District Sanghar on August 3, 2023.

Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq was expected to be released on May 27, 2023, in the latest case, but due to this new production order in the old case of 1992, his release has stalled. The septuagenarian gentleman remains in prison, simply for being a Syed and wishing Salaam.

Syed Tariq's health has deteriorated because

of his incarceration in old age. He had to be referred to a hospital. The prison authorities took him for various medical tests on July 10, 12, and 17. Doctors believe that Syed Tariq has

gone very weak due to the mental and physical stress of his situation.

He remains in jail pending a decision on his court case.

BOOKED BY POLICE FRIVOLOUSLY

Chak 84 GB Sarshamir, District Faisalabad; June 29, 2023:

Our June report mentioned that the police registered 6 cases, booked 13 Ahmadis for offering rituals of sacrifice, and arrested 7 of them. There was another case as well. On the day of Eid ul Adha, an Ahmadi, Mr. Mahmood Ahmad, was on security duty carrying lawfully

a registered weapon. Nevertheless, on June 29, 2023, the police detained him under the Arms Act. They registered a case No. 1121 against him in P.S. Thekriwala, under Section 13-15-2 of the Arms Act.

Thankfully, a court accepted his bail plea and he was released from prison. He will face the trail, nevertheless.

ANIMOSITY AGAINST AHMADIS IN AJK

Dolian Jattan, District Kotli; July 2023:

Two junior rank officials, who claimed to be from ISI, visited Ahmadiyya mosque here and told Ahmadis about a letter from the TLP, that demanded the removal of minarets and niche of the Ahmadiyya mosque. Ahmadis told them that these minarets were destroyed in 1994 and are still in the same condition. Ahmadis further told them that the deadline for covering the niche was July 16, 2023, which was met. The officials further inquired about the number of Ahmadis and households in the area.

In another incident, a social media ID operated with the name of Master Abdul Haq, shared a status that "the Qadianis in Dolian Jattan, District Kotli have built the minarets of their place

of worship by adopting the rites of Islam, against which Tehreek Labaik has given the administration an ultimatum till 9th Muharram that if the administration does not demolish the minarets by 9th Muharram, then on 10th Muharram the workers of Tehreek Labaik will demolish the minarets, and all the responsibility for this will be on the administration."

Similarly, on July 21, 2023, a group of TLP activists visited a non-Ahmadi friend of an Ahmadi local official and asked about his presence. The group demanded persistently that the Ahmadi should be brought forth. As the Ahmadi was not there, the group probed about him at other places as well.

ANOTHER MALICIOUS COMPLAINT AGAINST AN AHMADIYYA MOSQUE

Sambrial, District Sialkot; July 2023:

Jawad Ahmad Farooqi and Advocate Qaisar Sahi submitted an application to the Assistant Commissioner Sambrial in which they stated that Ahmadis had established a place of worship in Mohallah Kumharan, Sambrial where they have constructed a niche which is

against the law and the Constitution (sic). This shows its resemblance to a mosque, there is thus anger and fury among Muslims, which can disrupt the peace, they alleged. The complaint concluded with an implicit threat; they demanded the authorities destroy the niche to maintain law and order.

HATRED—SANS LIMITE

Sanghar, Sindh:

A few mullas, accompanied by some bigots, decided to move against an Ahmadiyya mosque located on a personal farm of an Ahmadi elder, Dr. Azhar. This story is mentioned elsewhere in this report; here we mention only two of the hate-filled speeches of their leaders there to show the extent of their aggression and the long leash they avail from the authorities. A mulla is seen in a video addressing his accomplices in the following words (English translation of the Urdu original):

"Azhar and Mazhar are two brothers from 22 Chak, Sanghar. They are sort of filthy (pleed) humans. Whosoever is called nasty and filthy, is a Qadiani. Dr. Azhar has established this mosque-like worship place. Remember! Do not let such a person be with you and cut off relations with those with whom he sits, even if he is rich or poor, has money or even he is a feudal lord, or anyone else. Remember! Whenever you sit with a blacksmith, the sparks would reach your clothes when he ignites a fire. Boycott those whom a Qadiani befriends! If a Qadiani comes to a shop to buy groceries, turn him away. If the steps of this filthy person enter a shop, the shop will also become filthy—he is such a despicable person. In the end, I would like to raise a slogan:

The one and only identity of Satan—Qadiani, Qadiani

"The authorities should immediately demolish their mosque-like worship place. Otherwise, the enthusiasts of the Prophet would take law in their own hands—we cannot control anyone's sentiments—whenever there would be a need, these hands would InshAllah reach their (Qadianis') necks."

Another mulla considered the abuses and threats, mentioned above, were not strong enough; he decided to do better (or, worse!). After reciting *Bismillah* and a few pious phrases, this mulla proceeded:

Allah Almighty said in the Holy Quran.... O Beloved (Prophet)! Your enemy will not have any offspring.... A Qadiani is the worst enemy of the Holy Prophet. If Dr. Azhar thinks that he will leave behind his spiritual offspring, we would like to tell him, "O Dog, doomed to stay in hell!" We would also like to tell the authorities; we would like to tell you as well. Unfortunately, we do not know for how long this filthy plant was here, spreading filth, while our colleagues were asleep....

I am Shahid Raza Sikandari, the Ameer of Tehrik e Labbaik Pakistan. I am a resident of Sanghar. I would like to convey this to those who have this matter in their hands. Do not consider us just a few people. We started this in Sanghar, and we have reached here today. That day is not far when these hands would reach the necks of Qadianis and even the necks of the friends of Qadianis. We know those who are friends with Qadianis. We also know those who give them protocol in villages. We also know with whom Azhar Qadiani sits in their lounges. We are also aware of the so-called Muslims whom Azhar Qadiani visits in dark hours.

Curse be upon Azhar Qadiani. Azhar Qadiani should be immediately arrested! (slogans)

If the political parties want to save their reputation, he should be arrested and his building should be demolished as soon as possible.

It is very relevant to mention that the mulla, by openly indulging in such hateful speech, and threatening violence, violated the law of the land, PPC 153-A reproduced below:

"Promoting enmity between different groups, etc. Whoever:

(a) by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representations, or otherwise, promotes or incites, or attempts to promote or incite on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, caste or community or any other grounds whatsoever disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities; or

(b) commits, or incites any other person to commit, any act which is prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony between different religious, racial, language, or regional groups or castes or communities or any groups of person identifiable as such on any ground whatsoever and which disturbs or is likely to disturb public tranquility; or

(c) organizes, or incites any other person to organize, any exercise, movement, drill or other similar activity intending that the participants in any such activity shall use or be trained to use criminal force or violence or knowing it to be likely that the participants in any such activity will use or be trained to use criminal force or violence, or participates, or incites any other person to participate, in any such activity intending to use or be trained to use criminal force or violence or knowing it to be likely that the participants in any such activity will use or be trained to use criminal force or violence, against any religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community or any group or person identifiable as such on any ground whatsoever and any such activity for any reason whatsoever causes or is likely to cause fear or alarm or a feeling of insecurity amongst members of such religious, racial, language or regional group or caste or community shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine."

We are not aware of any action taken by the authorities against these mullas, however, we know that they registered a case against the victims of the mullas' rhetoric and sealed the Ahmadiyya mosque to calm them down.

Relevant is the news that Pakistan introduced on July 12 a Resolution in the UN HR Council, on behalf of the OIC, on the issue of desecration of the Holy Quran; it required the states to review their laws and plug gaps that may **"impede the prevention and prosecution of acts and advocacy of religious hatred"**. The Resolution also urged states to adopt laws to **"address, prevent and prosecute acts of religious hatred that constitute incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence."**

TLP'S WRIT

Okara; July 14, 2023:

Tehreek Labbaik activists took out a motorcycle rally here. More than 100 men participated in it. At the end of the rally, they assembled at the Press Club where the leaders made provocative speeches. The Amir of the District TLP verbally attacked the administration for not taking action against Ahmadis on the issue of *Qurbani*. He asserted that Ahmadis would not be allowed to offer Friday Prayers. *"If they surely do not desist, we'll pull them out,"* he said. He also demanded that Ahmadiyya Amir remove the word 'Muhammad' from his name, and stop visiting the courts' premises (as an advocate). He elaborated that the name Muhammad would be found only in their names, while Ahmadis being unclean (*pleed*) could not use this pious (*pak*) name. *"We had announced that Ahmadis would not undertake Qurbani, but they did. In the future, if they practiced any Islamic rites, we shall not complain against them; the*

TLP itself would take action against them," he asserted. He indicated with his rod that the TLP would use the rod to make Ahmadis comply.

Let us make it clear, if it is not clear yet, that the TLP is using the Ahmadiyya issue to challenge the writ of the state, and if the authorities yield to their threats, the government will soon find TLP's grip on its neck.

Also relevant is the statement made after the Bajaur explosion by an Islamist: *All the people, Ulama of all denominations, and leaders condemn the Bajaur attack (in which more than 50 participants of JUI were killed)*. In the same vein, Maulvi Fazl ur Rahman concluded: *The Bajaur tragedy has worn out the entire Ummah; we are fighting the battle to save the Ummah and Pakistan. National security apparatus would do well to take notice of TLP as it would not take long to metamorphose into a TTP, at the time of their choosing.*

TLP'S MODUS OPERANDI CONCERNING AHMADIS

Jhelum:

Tehrik Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), a religio-political party, was brought into being in August 2014. It was led by top mullas of the Barelvi faction. It would be an interesting subject for research as to who and for what purpose this party was formed in the name of religion with extremist far-right colors. Over the next few years, it developed fast and became quite a nuisance for the ruling elite. It mounted numerous marches etc. on Islamabad and dared to kill law enforcement personnel in confrontations.

During intervals, when this party is not busy in active conflict with the rulers, it keeps itself busy with anti-Ahmadi activism. Ahmadis are a soft target, and TLP finds the authorities to be very compliant when any anti-Ahmadi demand(s) is made to them under threat, even if fake.

Recently, in July, with the sensitive Muharram approaching, the TLP in Jhelum targeted an Ahmadiyya mosque and issued the following poster in addition to verbal threats from the podium: *Translation:*

Safeguarding the End of Prophet-hood (PBUH) March will not be delayed even for one minute at 10 a.m. on 10th Muharram ul Haram. The procession will get underway at 09:30 precisely from the Central Office, Sarai Aamgir.

Demands

1. Minarets and niches of all Qadianis' centers (of worship) should be removed in District Jhelum.
2. Total and most stringent restrictions should be applied to Qadianis' activities and their practice of Islamic shaire (rites).

From Shandar Chowk to Qadiani Centre, minarets should be pulled down (sic).

Photo
Mr Muhammad Asim Ashfaq Rizvi
Tehrik Labbaik Pakistan

Two photos of
Mr Ch. Nazakat Ali Rizvi
Amir Tehrik Labbaik Pakistan PP28
Syed Chan Pir Shah
Senior Executive Tehrik Labbaik PP-28

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And sure enough, the police destroyed the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Kalan Gujran, District Jhelum, on July 14.

The threats, the posters, the police action all worked like a well-lubricated machine — all acted in unison and harmony.

Whither Ahmadis' HR and FORB?

It is said, "According to NISP-II (National Internal Security Policy), inadequate application of the writ of the state and violations of human rights are crucial drivers of extremism. The growth of exclusionary identity discourses around gender, religion, sect and ethnicity has also contributed to the rise of extremism."

CVE policy outline: The Daily Dawn, July 22, 2023

BURIAL DENIED - THE POLICE ACTS HELPLESS

78 Janubi, Sargodha; July 11, 2023:

Wife of an Ahmadi, Mubashar Ahmad, passed away here. Ahmadis arranged her burial in the common graveyard. Some opponents objected to this and filed a complaint with the police. Mullas started gathering in the graveyard. The police arrived along with the Patwari (local land revenue official). He stated that of the 2-acre land allotted for the graveyard, one acre is available in which the burial can be undertaken. The agitators, however, did not agree to this, and even the police failed to implement this reasonable proposal. Ahmadis had to bury the deceased in her farmhouse. An Ahmadi had been buried in that graveyard only a

fortnight before.

The situation remains hostile in the area. A video is being circulated on social media in which mullas can be seen demanding the removal of dead Ahmadis from their graves in common graveyards and to be shifted elsewhere. They grossly indulged in hate speech.



A NOTEWORTHY PRESS REPORT

Monday, July 24, 2023:

The prestigious daily Dawn published a report by Kalbe Ali on the recent anti-Ahmadiyya events in the country and the notice taken by the UN in far-away Geneva — although the national authorities adopted a laissez-faire attitude to these grave developments. We produce the Dawn report below:

Anti-Ahmadi drive invites UN bodies' ire

Kalbe Ali

ISLAMABAD: The drive against the Ahmadi community, which has become a regular feature in Punjab, is not only bringing a bad name to the country, but also inviting the ire of UN bodies.

After a campaign last month to stop Ahmadis from offering sacrifice on Eidul Azha, the latest drive launched against the community involves demolition of the minarets of their places of worship.

The drive is being spearheaded by the Tehreek-i-LabbaiK Pakistan (TLP).

A poster floated by the social media wing of the TLP in Sarai Alamgir, a town near Jhelum, said: "From Shaandar Chowk to the Qadiani Centre, all minarets will be demolished."

Continue reading on page 24

AHMADIS BEHIND BARS

1

Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad, etc. were booked on May 26, 2020, with FIR Nr. 29/2020 at Police Station FIA Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 120-B, 109, 34 R/W, 2016-PECA-11, allegedly for sharing a WhatsApp message regarding a religious Quiz program and a General Knowledge competition arranged by the youth organization of the Ahmadiyya community.

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

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

Addl. Sessions Judge Lahore added the blasphemy clause PPC 295-C to the charge sheet on June 29, 2021, exposing them to the penalty of death.

The Supreme Court rejected their post-arrest bail application. Thereafter the High Court rejected Rohan's bail on statutory grounds on June 8, 2023. The statutory ground here means 'trial not concluded within 2 years of the arrest of the accused'.

2

Mr. Shiraz Ahmad etc. were booked by Cyber Crime Police Station Lahore on June 20, 2019, under FIR Nr. 88, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11, for allegedly creating a group "Sindh Salammat" and sharing Ahmadiyya content in it. He was arrested from Hafizabad on February 25, 2021. Subsequently, the trial court added the Blasphemy section 295-C of PPC to the said case.

His bail plea was rejected by the Supreme Court.

3

Malik Zaheer Ahmad was arrested on September 30, 2020, in a fabricated case under Sections 295-B, 298-C, PECA-11, and 109. He was granted bail on February 23, 2021, and was expected to be released in four to five days after the paper formalities. On February 27, when Malik Zaheer Ahmad was expected to be released from the Camp Jail, the Cyber Crime Wing Lahore team arrested him under FIR Nr. 88 as outlined in the above case, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, and PECA-11. He was not even formally nominated in the case.

His bail plea was rejected by the Supreme Court.

4

Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Sani Principal of Noor Academy was arrested on January 7, 2023, from his home in Rabwah. He was booked with FIR Nr. 661/22 under the blasphemy section 295-B, PPC 298-C, and the Punjab Holy Quran (Printing and Recording) Act 2011, allegedly for distributing copies of the Holy Quran as a prize among students who memorized the Holy Quran. He was sent to Jhang Jail after judicial remand and later transferred to District Jail Faisalabad. His bail plea was rejected by Additional Sessions Judge Lalian, District Chiniot.

5

The police booked Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq for having 'Syed' in his name, under PPC the anti-Ahmadiyya 298-B with FIR No. 54 on April 27, 2023, in the police station City Court Karachi. He was arrested and sent to jail.

Sindh High Court allowed his release on bail on May 27, 2023, but due to a production order in an old case of October 20, 1992, his release has been stalled.

6

Mr. Javed Iqbal and Mr. Aftab Talib of Chak 433 GB, District Toba Tek Singh were booked and arrested under PPC 298-C with FIR No. 508 at police station Gojra Saddar, District Toba Tek Singh on June 30, 2023, for sacrificing animals on Eid-ul-Adha.

7

Mr. Asad Ijaz and Mr. Ahmad Shiraz of Chak 433 GB, District Toba Tek Singh were booked and arrested under PPC 298-C with FIR No. 509 at police station Gojra Saddar, District Toba Tek Singh on June 30, 2023, for sacrificing animals on Eid-ul-Adha.

8

Mr. Mubashar Ahmad including four others from Nagar Parkar, District Tharparkar was booked in a police case on December 27, 2022, in Nagar Parkar police station under PPCs 337 (iv), 337A (i), 334, 337F(i), 337L (ii), 147, 148, 149, 504 with FIR No. 59. On January 10, 2023, Additional Sessions Judge Mithi, District Tharparkar rejected Mubashar's plea for bail confirmation. An appeal was filed against this decision in Sindh High Court where they rejected his bail request. An appeal was then filed in the Karachi Registry of the Supreme Court which also rejected his bail on June 30, 2023. On July 7, 2023, he presented himself before the Sessions Court where the police took him into custody and sent him to prison.

RIGHT TO VOTE FOR AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

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

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

BOTH CHOICES ARE INCONCEIVABLE TO AHMADI MUSLIMS

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

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

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

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

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

(Name & Signature of Voter)

AS OF JULY 31, 2023:

- Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Sani - principal Hifz School Rabwah was arrested in Jan.
- Mr. Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq - advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan arrested in Apr.
- 12 Ahmadis are behind bars solely on account of their faith.
- Fabricated cases against 8 Ahmadis were registered during Nov and an FIR is registered against some members of Ahmadiyya leadership in Pakistan in Dec.
- A 20-year-old Ahmadi student has been awarded 5 years imprisonment in Nov 2022, for hurting the religious feelings.
- 13 Ahmadis were arrested last year for sacrificing animals on Eid. This year 13 Ahmadis were nominated in 6 cases and 7 have been arrested on Eid festival.
- A 65 year old Ahmadi lady and another Ahmadi were arrested under blasphemy clauses during February for allegedly tearing off an anti-Ahmadiyya poster. She was released on bail. Her trial continues.
- 2 Ahmadi prisoners died while in police custody (Feb. 2021 & Jan 2022.)

Alarming Facts SINCE JANUARY 2021

- 6 Ahmadis have been murdered for faith, raising the total to 276 since the promulgation of Ordinance XX
- 19 murder attempts, 10 attacks during 2022, 2 attacks in May.
- Fabricated cases against 8 Ahmadis were registered during Nov 2022 and an FIR is registered against some members of Ahmadiyya leadership in Pakistan in Dec. Two new cases registered, one Ahmadi arrested in Feb 2023
- 10 Ahmadiyya mosques were targeted and desecrated during 2023. This figure was 14 last year, 14 in 2021, and 7 in 2020.
- 13 Ahmadis are nominated in 6 cases for sacrificing animals on Eid festival, 7 of them are arrested.
- 2 Ahmadi prisoners died in custody, they were imprisoned for their faith.
- 29 Ahmadiyya mosques desecrated, 1 mosque sealed by the authorities. 9 attacked during 2023
- 344 graves have been desecrated, 197 of these were during 2022. 16 during July 2023. Burial of an Ahmadi lady denied and the graveyard sealed in Nov. Burial of two Ahmadi ladies denied in Jan and Jul 2023.
- 53 new cases have been registered against Ahmadis under the blasphemy laws & Anti-Ahmadi laws.
- Sacred inscription from 22 houses and shops have been removed

AHMADI CENSORSHIP

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

The drive, the poster said, will commence at 10 am on the 10th of Muharram (July 29) from the TLP's office in Sarai Alamgir.

TLP leading a campaign of demolishing minarets of their places of worship

On July 14, the TLP pressured police into demolishing minarets of an Ahmadi place of worship in Jhelum. The party's local chapter later announced that it would demolish minarets of all Ahmadi places of worship in the entire Jhelum district.

Some of these sites are more than a hundred years old.

Amir Mehmood, a spokesman for the Jamaat Ahmadiyya in Pakistan, attributed the recent upsurge in anti-Ahmadi drive to the coming elections.

"We have seen it in the past too that political parties use the religion card to woo voters by whipping up emotions," Mr Mehmood said.

In the wake of social media complaints to the Punjab government, the deputy commissioner of Jhelum, retired Captain Samiullah Farooq, has recommended gagging Saad Rizvi of TLP during Muharram and Safar.

The Jhelum police have lodged two FIRs against the TLP chief for making provocative speeches. When Dawn tried to contact TLP leaders, no office-bearer responded to repeated phone calls.

When an attempt was made to get in touch with a TLP spokesperson on the phone number given on the poster, the person who answered the call said bluntly "wrong number".

A similar campaign was launched by TLP in the run-up to Eidul Azha when it filed as many as 23 complaints with police to stop Ahmadis from sacrificing animals.

Police gave in to TLP pressure and tried to stop the community from sacrificing animals at 89 places and booked 13 individuals in six cases. Seven of them were arrested in various districts. A report released by Jamaat Ahmadiyya said police had seized 10 animals and took possession of sacrificial meat from houses of five members of the community.

UN concern

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has expressed concern over the treatment of Ahmadis in Pakistan and asked the government to respond to allegations of violations of international law.

The OHCHR said in its letter: "We would like to bring to the attention of your Excellency's Government the information we have received concerning growing discrimination and rising incidents of hate speech and incitement to violence against the Ahmadi religious minority in Pakistan, including attacks against places of worship and other acts of intimidation."

The letter was submitted to Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

"We are deeply concerned about this series of violent attacks against the Ahmadi minority, which we have previously addressed in several communications that despite our requests for remedial actions from authorities, the safety of the Ahmadiyya minority continues to deteriorate," the OHCHR letter said.

(Published in Dawn, July 24th, 2023) <https://www.dawn.com/news/1766457>

FROM THE MEDIA

- Police demolishes Ahmadis' worship place after TLP threats in Jhelum
minute.mirror.com.pk/police-demolishes...on July 16, 2023
- Ahmadi place of worship vandalized (in Karachi)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 26, 2023
- Neither Living nor Dead Ahmadis Protected in Jhelum as Graves Vandalized.
thefriday.times.com/2023/07/20/neither living
- FIRs registered in Pakistan's Punjab against Ahmadi community members for sacrificing animals on Eid.
aninews.in/world/asia/firs-registered ...July 3, 2023

- Cases filed against Ahmadis for sacrificing animals on Eid.
- Two suspects in Lahore, Toba Tek Singh taken into custody.
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 3, 2023
- During the month of Muharram, the Home Department Punjab imposed Section 144 all over the province to forbid, inter alia, "provocative slogans/speech against any sect/community."
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 20, 2023
- Five KP policemen martyred in two terror attacks
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 21, 2023
- Policeman martyred, mosque destroyed in Jamrud bombing
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 26, 2023
- Three officials including a head constable die in firing by terrorists in Peshawar and DJ Khan
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, July 20, 2023
- Six FC men wounded in Peshawar suicide bombing
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 19, 2023
- Over 40 killed in JUL's workers' convention in Bajaur (eventually 55 killed)
TV GNN at 07:47 on July 31, 2021
- Major martyred in Khyber gun battle with terrorists, says ISPR
- Abducted cop found dead in Tirah
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 7, 2023
- Militant attacks claim 389 lives in six months
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 3, 2023
- Suicide bombing claims four lives in N. Waziristan
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 6, 2023
- Islamic state behind attacks on clerics, minorities in Peshawar: CTD
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 11, 2023
- Malik Khizr Hayat Khokhar, president of (...) announces Rs. 10 million reward to one who dispatches the (Swedish) defiler of the Quran to hell.
The daily Dunya; Lahore, July 8, 2023
- Three injured in Bajaur IED attack (fourth attack in less than 48 hours in KP)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 22, 2023
- Taliban create bonfire of music equipment
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 31, 2023
- Punjab requisitions army deployment for Muharram
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 16, 2023
- Armed forces deplore TTP havens across western border
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 15, 2023
- Entry of 24 clerics to Abbottabad banned
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 18, 2023
- 22 ulama gagged (zaban bandi) in District Toba
The daily Dunya; Lahore, July 18, 2023
- No law can override human rights: Justice Muneeb (SC)
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, July 22, 2023
- Political parties urged to protect religious minorities Dr Shoaib Suddle says proposal separating minorities affairs from religious affairs forwarded to cabinet
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 26, 2023
- Resolution (co-sponsored by Pakistan seeking to Counter hate speech adopted by UNGA)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 27, 2023
- Shehbaz says communal harmony should replace 'violent ultra-nationalism'.
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 5, 2023
- Islam teaches peace, forbearance and tolerance, Mohsin Naqvi (CM Punjab)
- There is no room for extremism and hatred in Islam
TV Dawn at 21:19 on July 7, 2023
- All Prophets, Messengers and Heavenly Books are our red-line. Blasphemy against the Prophet, the Quran and the Holies is not acceptable at all: Tahir Ashrafi
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, July 8, 2023
- At UN rights body, FM urges world to stand united against hatred, discrimination
- Insists free speech is as indispensable as hate speech is indefensible.
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 12, 2023
- Respect for others' religious sentiments a must; Ulama should co-operate for peace: Mohsin Naqvi (Caretaker CM Punjab)
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, July 16, 2023
- Govt to reconstruct 150-year-old Marie Mata Temple, PA told
- Sindh minority affairs minister says demolition of any place of worship is not permissible
The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 19, 2023
- Amended Elections Act passed by Joint sitting among protests

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 27, 2023

- Prestigious UK university honors Salam's legacy. Imperial College London this week announced that it will be naming its central library after late Pakistani physicist and Nobel Prize winners Dr. Abdus Salam

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 2, 2023

- Countrywide protests against defiling the Quran in Sweden. Will have to fight Islamophobia. PM's phone call to Secretary General OIC

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, July 8, 2023

- Islamdom in great protest over defiling the Holy Quran in Sweden

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, July 2, 2023

- Attack on (Muslim) US legislator 'unprovoked, hateful'

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 2, 2023

- UN rights council condemns desecration of Holy Quran

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 13, 2023

- At least 12 Palestinians killed, 100 wounded in incursion (on Jenin)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 6, 2023

Op-ed Stoking the Flames

...For example, the burning of the Quran in public has become a frequent spectacle in certain European countries. Those who do this are largely individuals bred on literature that is a mixture of racist ideas, anti-immigration sentiments and conspiracy theories. They know that the best way to get attention for themselves and their 'cause' is to offend Muslims, because the reaction of the Muslims are always the most emotional.

(Nadeem F. Paracha in the daily Dawn of July 16, 2023)

Editorial: Menaced by terrorism

... Meanwhile, KP police recently shed some light on another category of terrorism: target killing. Its counter-terrorism department has claimed that IS-K is behind the murders of several Islamic scholars as well as members of minority communities in Peshawar, adding that some 60 IS-K members broke out of prison after the Afghan Taliban's return to power in Kabul and managed to enter Pakistan. At least three Sikhs, an equal number of Muslim cler-

ics and a Christian have been mowed down in the city since February 2023. The victims' profile illustrates how no one is safe from violent religious extremists: those in their cross hairs can be from minority communities or from the majority faith. All it takes is a twisted mindset that rejects diversity and freedom of religion so vehemently that it does not even consider sacrosanct the right to life itself. ...

(Published in dawn on July 14, 2023)

Editorial: Bulldozed

... On Thursday, the first day of the 15th National Assembly's farewell session, the House allowed critical legislation without the required number of lawmakers present for proceedings, with Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf binning House procedures to allow the draft of two laws to be drastically amended, and then having the amendments passed by a voice vote before they were even tabled.

According to reports, he gave Aviation Minister Saad Rafique the floor to introduce extensive amendments, including 100 new clauses, in the Pakistan Airports Authority Bill, 2022, and the Pakistan Civil Aviation Bill, 2022, with less than two dozen members present. Both bills had been moved a year ago and were approved by the relevant committee in their original form....

(Published in the daily Dawn Lahore on July 22, 2023)

Op-ed: Algeria honours Eqbal Ahmad

In Pakistan, said Eqbal, Islam has been a convenient refuge for troubled and weak leaders. While the country suffers from a protracted crisis of leadership, promises of an 'Islamic state' serve to distract attention away from core issues.

To quote Noam Chomsky, another of Eqbal's friends, Eqbal saw the postcolonial state as "a bad version of the colonial one", with the same structure of "a centralised power, a paternalistic bureaucracy, and an alliance of the military and landed notables". The new elite are the inheritors of the old: the propertied classes, the intelligentsia, the bourgeoisie that are "as heartless in its lack of concern for the poor, in some ways even more so, as the colonial state".

(Pervez Hoodbhoy Pblished July 15, 2023)

Tweets

Shehbaz Sharif @CMShehbaz

No civilized society will allow the desecration of the holy personages, symbols and the Divine Books in the name of freedom of expression. The grant of permission to desecrate the Holy Quran, Torah & Bible is part of a sinister, vile & despicable agenda whose sole aim could be to threaten world peace. I call upon the OIC and the civilized world to come forward & take steps to put an end to such abominable practices as desecration of the Holy Books. The attitudes that incite religious hatred, promote violence and encourage terrorism & militancy need to be checked. We should not let a handful of Satanic characters undermine our shared values of peace, and tolerance, pluralism.

11:07 AM · Jul 21, 2023 · 172.1K Views

682 Reposts 32 Quotes 2,317 Likes 6 Bookmarks

Ali Usman Qasmi @AUQasmi

Since the 70s, Ahmadi have endured violence, but the last 5 years have seen a disturbing surge in anti-Ahmadi attacks due to TLP's rise. What's even more troubling is the rise of vigilante violence by 'ordinary folks,' once confined to central Punjab, now it's all over Pakistan.

ATTACKS ON AHMADI PLACES OF WORSHIP IN PAKISTAN | JANUARY - JULY 2023

10 Between January and July 2023 there have been ten attacks on Ahmadi places of worship across the country.

10 Jan Minarets Desecrated in Wazirabad	4 Feb Gun Fire attack in Settalite Town, Mirpur Khas
18 Jan Minarets Desecrated in Martin Road Karachi	25 Mar Minarets Desecrated in Kolra Kalan, Gujrat
02 Feb Minarets Desecrated of Ahmadiyya Hall Karachi	16 Apr Minarets Desecrated in Ghogryat, Sargodha
3 Feb Arson Attack in Noor Nagar, Umer Kot	4 May Minarets Desecrated in Dholanabad, Mirpur Khas
3 Feb Minarets Desecrated in Goth Ghazi Khan Murrani	11 Jul Minarets Desecrated in Kala Gojran, Jehlum

Since the enactment of Ordinance XX and the subsequent anti-Ahmadi laws by former military dictator General Zia-ul-Haq in 1984, Ahmadi places of worship have regularly suffered acts of vandalism and desecration perpetrated by both authorities and vigilante mobs. These attacks often involve the destruction of minarets and domes, and religious inscriptions. While the assailants cite the law, legal experts argue it doesn't apply to worship sites. The Islamic exclusivity of minarets and domes is also debated. Shockingly, 173 Ahmadi places of worship have been targeted.

SINCE 1984

- 40 Ahmadi Places of Worship Seized by Authorities
- 17 Ahmadi Places of Worship Set on Fire or Damaged
- 19 Ahmadi Places of Worship Forcibly Occupied
- 29 Construction of Ahmadi Places of Worship Banned
- 1 Ahmadi Places of Worship Demolished

11:49 AM · Jul 19, 2023 · 32.1K Views

Translation: (right) Minars are part of the places of worship of many religions. He has his own glory on the magnificent building of this church in Peshawar. Those who object to having minarets on Ahmadiyya places of worship should visit Pakistan to increase their knowledge and see domes etc. on Gurdwaras too.

Saleem ud Din @SaleemudDinAA

Anti-Ahmadi drive invites UN bodies ire



dawn.com
Anti-Ahmadi drive invites UN bodies ire
TLP leading a campaign of demolishing minarets of their places of worship.

5:00 AM · Jul 24, 2023 · 6,158 Views

Saleem ud Din @SaleemudDinAA

Ahmadis' Worship Place Vandalized In Karachi via @tft



thefridaytimes.com
Ahmadis' Worship Place Vandalized In Karachi
In another targeted hate crime against Ahmadi, miscreants vandalized and damaged an Ahmadi place of worship in Karachi. A dozen miscreants storme...

4:58 AM · Jul 27, 2023 · 5,047 Views

AmirMahmood @IamAmirMahmood

مینار متعدد مذاہب کی عبادتگاہوں کا حصہ ہیں۔ پشاور کے اس چرچ کی شاندار عمارت پر ان کی اپنی شان ہے۔ جو لوگ احمدیہ عبادتگاہوں پر مینار ہونے پر معترض ہیں وہ اپنے علم میں اضافہ کے لئے پاکستان کی سیر کریں اور گردواروں پر بھی گنبد وغیرہ دیکھیں

@OfficialDPRPP
@MohsinnaqviC42

Translate post

secular & democratic @Secularliberat1 · Jul 22
Replying to @IamAmirMahmood @_MBRana and 7 others

یہ دیکھ لو پشاور کا چرچ ہے



9:32 AM · Jul 22, 2023 · 2,530 Views

Editorial: Hateful campaign

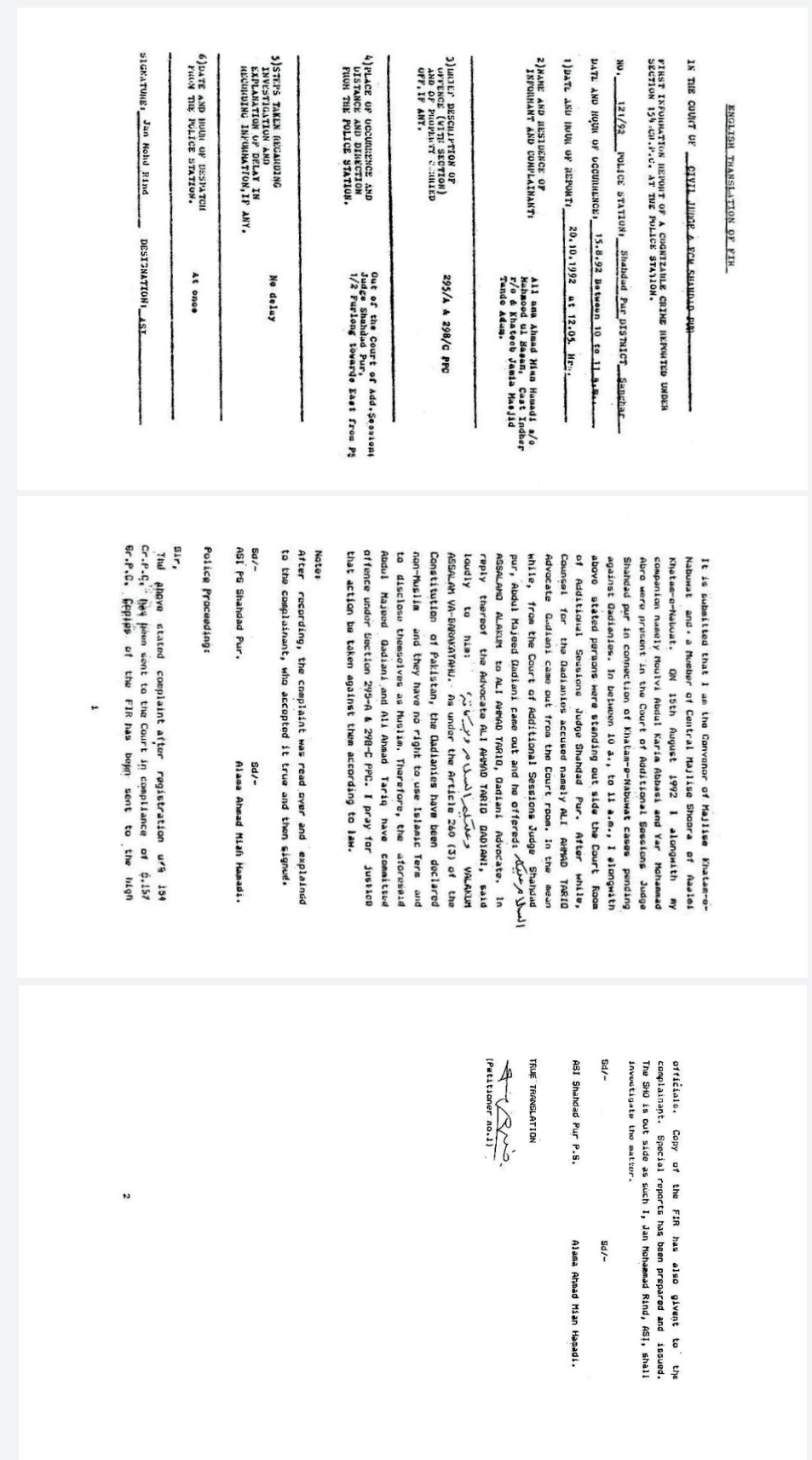
PAKISTAN `S ruling elite often highlight the need to eliminate extremism and radicalism from society. However, the activities of extremists operating under their very noses make one question the state `s commitment to countering fanaticism. The latest victims of bigotry are members of the Ahmadi community a group that has long suffered at the hands of extremists. According to reports, the TLP is leading a campaign on social media to damage Ahmadi places of worship in Punjab `s Sarai Alamgir town. The party had earlier championed similar actions in Jhelum, while mobs had also attacked the minority community `s religious facilities in Karachi in February.

Apart from targeting their religious structures, the TLP also led a campaign to prevent Ahmadis from sacrificing animals on Eidul Azha. However, these hateful campaigns are attracting the wrong kind of attention for Pakistan internationally. In a letter written by the Office of the UN `s High Commissioner for Human Rights, and submitted to Pakistan `s UN representative in Geneva, the multilateral body has said it is `deeply concerned about ... violent attacks ` against Ahmadis, while particularly mentioning attacks on the group `s places of worship.

These are not isolated incidents, as a Hindu temple was razed reportedly by the land mafia in Karachi, while a mandir was attacked in Kashmore a few days ago. The state must do more than merely pay lip service to minorities ` constitutionally guaranteed right to freedom of religion. If radical groups are not stopped from targeting and harassing non-Muslim communities, they will only grow in strength and one day may challenge the ruling elite. Moreover, Pakistan `s desire to project a `soft image ` will hardly be fulfilled if minority places of worship are attacked and desecrated. To protect the rights of Pakistan `s non-Muslim citizens, and prevent further censure from global bodies, the state needs to stop these odious drives and rein in the groups leading them. Surrendering to extremists will further erode whatever remains of the state `s writ.

*(Published in daily Dawn on July 25, 2023)
https://www.dawn.com/news/1766708*

**Copy of the old FIR on Syed Tariq Ahmad Advocate (1992)
for saying Islamic greetings**



UNVEILING THE HARD FACTS - AHMADIS' PERSECUTION IN H1 2023 - A SNAPSHOT

ATTACKS ON AHMADI PLACES OF WORSHIP IN PAKISTAN | JANUARY - JULY 2023

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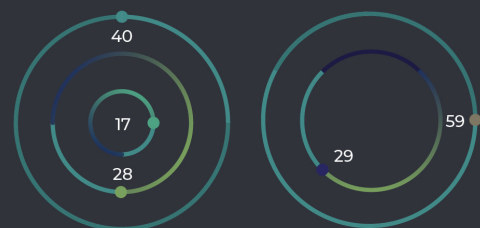


11 Jul | Minarets Desecrated in Kala Gojran, Jehlum



Since the enactment of Ordinance XX and the subsequent anti-Ahmadi laws by former military dictator General Zia-ul-Haq in 1984, Ahmadi places of worship have regularly suffered acts of vandalism and desecration perpetrated by both authorities and vigilante mobs. These attacks often involve the destruction of minarets and domes, and religious inscriptions. While the assailants cite the law, legal experts argue it doesn't apply to worship sites. The Islamic exclusivity of minarets and domes is also debated. Shockingly, 173 Ahmadi places of worship have been targeted.

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- Ahmadi Places of Worship Sealed by Authorities
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- Construction of Ahmadi Places of Worship Barred
- Ahmadi Places of Worship Demolished

* Since the Promulgation of Ordinance XX

SOME RELEVANT PAKISTAN PENAL CODES

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

295

Up to two years' imprisonment or fine, or both

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

295 A

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

Defiling, etc., of the Holy Quran

295 B

Life imprisonment

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

295 C

Death and fine

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

298

Up to one year imprisonment or fine, or both

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

298 A

Three years' imprisonment, or fine, or both

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

298 B

Three years' imprisonment and fine

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

298 C

Three years' imprisonment and fine

THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM JAMA'AT IS A RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY AND ORGANIZATION, INTERNATIONAL IN CHARACTER, WITH ESTABLISHED BRANCHES IN OVER 210 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN ASIA, AFRICA, THE AMERICAS, EUROPE AND AUSTRALIA. IT HAS TENS OF MILLIONS OF MEMBERS WORLDWIDE AND IS GROWING. THE AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY WAS FOUNDED IN 1889 BY HADRAT MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD OF QADIAN, ON TEACHINGS THAT HE SAW AS AN EMBODIMENT OF THE BENEVOLENT MESSAGE OF ISLAM: PEACE, UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD, AND SUBMISSION TO THE WILL OF GOD. HE CLAIMED TO BE THE LATTER-DAY MESSIAH AND REFORMER AWAITED IN LEADING WORLD RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD. HE OPPOSED VIOLENCE AS A MEANS OF ADVANCING RELIGION AND REJECTED TERRORISM IN ANY FORM OR FOR ANY REASON.

DECLARING AHMADIS AS NON-MUSLIMS

THE PAKISTANI RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENT BRANDS THE AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY HERETICAL IN NATURE AND DOES NOT APPROVE OF ITS REFORMATORY NATURE. POLITICIANS HAVE ALSO FOUND IT EXPEDIENT TO SUPPORT THE RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENT IN THEIR ANTI-AHMADIYYA STANCE. THE FIRST COUNTRYWIDE WAVE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE COMMUNITY ERUPTED IN 1953. FOLLOWING THE EXTENSIVE RIOTS, AN IN-DEPTH JUDICIAL INQUIRY BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND A JUDGE OF LAHORE HIGH COURT FOUND POLITICS TO BE THE MAIN CAUSE OF DISTURBANCES. MANY YEARS LATER, IN 1974, MR ZULFIKAR ALI BHUTTO, THE THEN PRIME MINISTER OF PAKISTAN, FOUND IT POLITICALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO HAVE AHMADIS DECLARED A NON-MUSLIM MINORITY, WHICH IN PAKISTAN IS A FORM OF SECOND RATE CITIZENSHIP. IT WAS A UNIQUE INNOVATION; WHILE OTHER NON-MUSLIM RELIGIOUS GROUPS, LIKE CHRISTIANS AND HINDUS, WERE NON-MUSLIM MINORITY BY THEIR PROFESSION, AHMADIS WERE FORCIBLY DECLARED A NON-MUSLIM MINORITY THROUGH LEGISLATION.


ORDINANCE XX

FOLLOWING BHUTTO'S LEAD, GENERAL ZIA UL HAQ, THE MILITARY DICTATOR OF PAKISTAN FROM 1977 TO 1988, TRIED TO COURT EXTREMISTS BY PROMULGATING THE NOTORIOUS ANTI-AHMADIYYA ORDINANCE XX IN 1984. THE ORDINANCE ADDED SECTIONS 298-B AND 298-C TO THE PAKISTAN PENAL CODE. THROUGH THIS ORDINANCE, THE RELIGIOUS RIGHTS OF AHMADIS WERE DIRECTLY VIOLATED. UNDER ITS PROVISIONS, AHMADIS COULD BE IMPRISONED FOR THREE YEARS AND FINED AN ARBITRARY AMOUNT FOR ORDINARY EXPRESSION OF THEIR FAITH. ADDITIONALLY, TO PROHIBIT AHMADIS FROM PROSELYTIZING, IT EXPRESSLY FORBADE THEM FROM CERTAIN RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND THE USAGE OF ISLAMIC TERMINOLOGY. THIS ORDINANCE EFFECTIVELY MAKES A CRIMINAL OUT OF EVERY AHMADI BY INCLUDING THE BROAD PROVISION OF "POSING AS A MUSLIM" A COGNIZABLE OFFENCE, GIVING THE EXTREMISTS À CARTE BLANCHETO TERRORIZE AHMADIS WITH THE BACKING OF THE STATE.


HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE UK

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