

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

Monthly Report

August 2019

A huge hateful panaflex in Lahore, the capital of the Punjab, threatens mass murder of Ahmadis



The above was put up by Messers Universal Traders of Akbari Mandi in Lahore. It declares Ahmadis to be *Wajib ul Qatl* (must be killed) and threatens in the name of End of Prophethood that any attempt to amend the 1973 constitution will result in “turning Chenab Nagar red with the blood of Qadianis, to the extent that the world will forget (the atrocities of) Tamerlane.” For detail see page 1.

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An open hateful banner in the capital of Punjab incites massacre of Ahmadis

Lahore, August 2019: Universal Traders, traders of Akbari Mandi, Lahore have openly committed a heinous crime by producing a hateful banner calling for death to the entire Ahmadiyya community at Rabwah. We produce its picture below and provide translation of some of the vernacular text:



Translation

“The belief in Khatm e Nabuwwat (pbuh): If there is an attempt to make changes to the 1973 Constitution, Chenab Nagar will be colored red with the blood of Qadianis and the world will forget even Tamerlane. (Emphasis provided in original)

“ ...

“... (Urdu stanza)

“I accept Qadianis to be infidels, without any argument. Qadianis must be put to death. (In the light of Holy Quran and Hadith)

“Universal Traders, traders of Akbari Mandi”

Will the authorities not take due notice of this outrage and bring the perpetrators to justice (PPCs 153A, 295A and 298 refer).

Also is relevant an earlier statement:
We’ve to show Narendar Modi how to treat minorities: Imran Khan

(The daily Jang; Lahore, December 23, 2018)

State-supported mulla-led Istehkam e Pakistan Conference

A flawed and delayed effort to right the wrongs committed by the state and society

Lahore, July 28, 2019: The vernacular press reported proceedings of an *Istehkam* (Solidarity of) *Pakistan Conference* in Lahore. It was a major event, as 1500 Ulama and *Mashaikh* reportedly attended it. It was chaired by Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi, the Chairman of the Mutahiddah Ulama Board, Punjab and the Pakistan Ulama Council. It can be safely assumed that the conference was promoted and funded by powerful sponsors.

There is nothing wrong with seeking Ulama’s support in government’s rational policies. However public money should be spent with due care through the right people in the right manner.

What was stated and agreed upon by the Ulama in the conference calls for critical analysis and lessons learnt, in retrospect.

In this conference, the final declaration mentioned:

- To call a Muslim, a *Qadiani* or *Kafir*, is a Great Sin.
- We reject non-Sharia edicts issued in the name of Quran and *Sunnah*.
- No Muslim sect should be declared *Kafir* (non-Muslim).
- Hateful, provocative and outrageous slogans should be completely shunned.
- Proliferation of malicious and provocative pamphlets and writings should be stopped.

- No Muslim or Non-Muslim should be declared *Wajib ul Qatl*, except on judicial verdict. ○
- The authorities should deal firmly with those who defile non-Muslims' holy sites and (threaten their) lives and properties.
- Every Muslim is guardian of belief in End of Prophethood and Honour of the Prophet. Those who violate the teachings of Quran and *Sunnah* and indulge in foul language and issuance of edicts (*fatwa bazi*) weaken the campaign to safeguard the belief in Khatme Nabuwwat. No group or party shall be permitted to promote its politics through belief in End of Prophethood or Honour of the Prophet.
- No incitement (*shar angezi*) of any kind against Pakistan and Saudi Arabia shall be tolerated.

(The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 29, 2019)

The above calls for appraisal. All the evils pointed out above have been kosher for decades against Ahmadis, and remain so to-date. However, now that powers that be are subjected to similar onslaughts, the authorities have realized that these must be condemned and thrown out. Good idea, but still the mulla holds on to his tools of power in the form of chosen beliefs. State-supported clerics pay lip service to tolerance and national unity but insist on making exceptions and sticking to their reservations. This is hypocrisy which will not allow such conferences bear the desired fruit. Hafiz Ashrafi, who presided over this mammoth event, was emphatic only recently on the Ahmadiyya issue:

- I am not willing to accept them (Ahmadis) in this country.
- To speak against Qadianis is Religious Harmony.
- We consider Mirza Qadiani anti-Christ (*Dajjal*).
- Those who do not recognize the Holy Prophet as the final Prophet (pbuh), we cannot recognize them.

- Inter-religion talk (with Qadianis)...this cannot be done and never will be done.

(Video details in last month's report)

What is the probability level of success of such Solidarity of Pakistan conference that is presided by a cleric like Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi, is anybody's guess. It may not make Pakistan solid, but it appears to solidify Ashrafi's position in halls of power.

A PTI provincial minister leans on religion

Peshawar; August 07, 2019: The PTI government has been lately accused of short of delivery on important national aims and objects. True or not, it has surely leaned on religious susceptibilities and sensitivities for support. In the Punjab, its subservience to the controversial Mutahiddah Ulama Board is noteworthy. In KPK, the statement of Mr. Shaukat Yusufzai, the Information Minister betrays the same weakness. We translate below a three-column news from the daily Islam of August 8, 2019 in this context: **None can even think of any change to the law on Khatme Nabuwwat: Shaukat Yusufzai** **Whoever is called *kafir* in the Constitution, is a *Kafir*; no middle position. The Ulama should promote unity.**

Political sermons are delivered in some of the mosques. Ulama will soon be paid monthly allowance: Information Minister KPK

Peshawar: Mr. Shaukat Ali Yusufzai, Information Minister KPK stated that none can even think of change in law; whoever is called *Kafir* in the Constitution is a *Kafir*, and there is no middle position. The role of respected Ulama is paramount in intra-religion harmony and reformation of society.... He said that the End of Prophethood is the foundation of our belief system, and there can be no change to the foundation... . He was addressing a provincial Seerat Conference on the theme of **"End of Prophethood and Muslims' responsibilities..."**. He stated that all religions enjoy freedom in Pakistan and their rights are protected. Minorities face no danger here. Minorities face discrimination in the largest democracy

in the world – India. We get deceived at times over ethnicity and at times over religion....Ulama will soon start being paid monthly allowance (*Wazifah*).

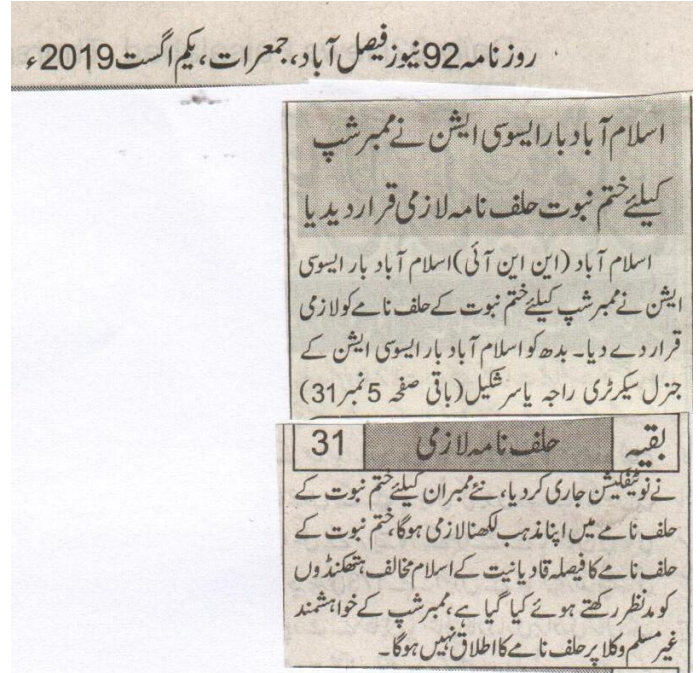
The above report calls for some comment:

1. Mr. Yusufzai is wrong in conveying that Constitution has termed Ahmadis *Kafir*. It hasn't; there is difference between a *Kafir* and a Not-Muslim – the minister ought to know that.
2. End of Prophethood is indeed an important element in the Islamic faith, but it is not the foundation; it is not mentioned in the Islamic creed, the *Kalima*.
3. The minister has complained over political sermons in mosques. He is right there, but equally wrong is to invoke religion in political discourse.
4. The Conference reportedly was a Seerat Conference, however its theme was fabricated into **“End of Prophethood and Muslims’ responsibilities”**. This is obviously shady and dishonest. It is unbecoming a political government to get manipulated by sectarian mullas. This trick was first used in a similar conference in Islamabad where in the presence of the Prime Minister, mulla Ali Siraj veered off to call for sectarianism, extremism and indeed – bloodshed. KPK should have learnt a lesson from that experience to avoid the mulla’s trap.
5. The minister claimed: i) Minorities face no danger here, ii) We, at times get deceived in the name of religion. The two statements are contradictory; only one of these can be true.

Note: This attitude of state functionaries raises issue of identity for Ahmadis in Pakistan. One of them put their concern in words. See Annex

Bigots at the bar

Islamabad, August 1, 2019: The daily 92 News, Faisalabad published following story:



(Translation)

Islamabad Bar Association makes Khatm e Nabuwwat declaration oath mandatory for membership

Islamabad (NNI): Islamabad Bar Association has made Khatm e Nabuwwat affidavit on oath compulsory for membership. Raja Yasir Shakeel the general secretary of the Bar Association issued a notification to the effect that every new member is supposed to declare his religion in the Khatm e Nabuwwat oath on the form. This decision was made in view of the anti-Islam conspiracies of Qadianis. This declaration would not be applicable to non-Muslim advocates applying for membership.

Prayer centre sealed by authorities

Lahore; July-August 2019: Ahmadiyya community in Model Town Lahore has a prayer centre in General Hospital area. The local Ahmadiyya community had already applied for its registration. A section of locals are opposed

to Ahmadis' congregation at the centre for worship. Recently officials of Special Police Branch visited the site and inspected it. Some locals gathered outside the prayer centre and insisted on not allowing Ahmadis to worship there.

DSP called Ahmadis on August 1, 2019 and told Ahmadis to stop worship there until an NOC is obtained from the DC office. He also urged Ahmadis to remove the *Kalima* and the niche from the prayer centre as he thought these are not allowed to Ahmadis. Ahmadis told him that they would not remove the *Kalima* but would not resist the authorities if they did that. He told Ahmadis to write an affidavit of compliance, but Ahmadis asked for some time to consider.

On August 2, 2019 Ahmadis were called again to the police station and told to sign an agreement. Ahmadis had to comply.

Ahmadis approached higher authorities for help, but on August 6, 2019 the police sealed the prayer centre under the pressure of mullas. They say that it has been sealed to defuse the dispute to reach an amicable solution. This is a bogus excuse as on numerous such occasions, the sealing of Ahmadiyya worship places has resulted in permanent closure.

Maniacal anti-Ahmadi op-ed in vernacular press

Decency of vernacular press and the government on trial

Punjab; Last week of July 2019: A number of vernacular newspapers in the Punjab published an op-ed by one Umar Khan Jozevi. This writer has used such abusive and vulgar language against not only Ahmadis but also against their holy founder that it is most hurtful and injurious to religious sentiments of this marginalized community. While any individual may feel extremely hateful toward another religious group, it is unexpected of editors of daily press to publish the same in their paper.

Such deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of 'any class' by insulting its religion or religious beliefs is a crime in Pakistan law PPC 295-A and is punishable with imprisonment for a term upto ten years. It is for the authorities, provincial as well as federal to uphold and apply the law where pertinent. It is now for the reader to decide whether the government has any justification to look the other way in the face of commission of this crime committed in broad daylight in public.

Before we produce the rabid text of Mr. Jozevi, we quote the 1993 Supreme Court's Muslim judges' view on what the majority religious community in this country considered as blasphemous:

"When an Ahmadi or Ahmadis display in public on a placard, a badge or a poster or write on walls or ceremonial gates or buntings, the '*Kalima*', or chant other '*Shaare Islam*' it would amount to publicly defiling the name of Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) and also other prophets, and exalting the name of Mirza Sahib thus intimating and instigating the Muslims....." In plain language, this means that if an Ahmadi, by reciting the *Kalima* (Islamic creed) declares that Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) was a true Prophet of Allah, he commits blasphemy, and is liable to be put to death under PPC-295.

However, as for insulting others' religious beliefs and outraging their religious feelings, Mr. Jozevi got away by writing the following in the daily *Jinnah*, Lahore of July 25, 2019 (*translation – extracts*):

"At a time when Prime Minister Imran Khan, having assumed power, is about to embark on his first tour of the U.S. it is not unusual for the acolytes and lackeys of the cursed and liar Mirza Ghulam Qadiani to raise their head in America to prove themselves persecuted and enslaved. The false outcry of optician Abdul Shakoor of Sargodha, before Donald Trump, the US President, appears to be part of a well-considered conspiracy and some dangerous plan. Abdul Shakoor, who set aside clear proclamations of the Sustainer of Universe, open orders of the Holy Quran and unchangeable rational instructions of

Prophet of Latter Days (p.b.u.h.) and accepted a liar, cursed and spurned (*mardud*) and *Kafir* as a prophet (God forbid), complains that he is now rated as the worst of *Kafirs*. What else to call a *Kafir*, other than a *Kafir*? It was not a maulvi who designated Abdul Shakoor the optician and Mirza Ghulam Qadiani and his followers and lackeys *Kafir*, but it was through their evil actions and becoming misguided through obedience to a liar and cursed that they fell into this gutter of disgrace and dishonor. If Shakoor hates the word *Kafir*, why does he not spit out the cursed and liar Mirza...It was on account of hell-bound people like Mirza, that the Holy Prophet had warned his Umma against the evil of such hell-bound (*Jahannamion*) people....Subsequent to the clear declaration by Allah and His Prophet, if anyone refuses to acknowledge the Prophethood of the Holy Prophet, be it Mirza Ghulam Qadiani or Yusuf the liar, or their followers and lackeys, they are surely the worst *Kafir*, apostates and out of the pale of Islam – not Muslim. As per the Quran and Hadith the Mirzai gang was already cast outside the pale of Islam, however it was in 1974 that the Constitution and Pakistan law confirmed their *Kufr*, deceit and lie and exposed their black face to the whole world. As per the constitution of Pakistan, Qadiani bunch cannot call itself Muslim. Abdul Shakoor and other followers and lackeys of the Mirza feel hurt simply because they are not allowed to call themselves Muslim. ... (Muslims) can sacrifice their fathers, wives and children but cannot tolerate the slightest attack on the Khatme Nabuwat and honour of their Prophet Mohammad. Abdul Shakoor, you boo hoo, cry and weep, begging before Donald Trump that you are not allowed to call yourself Muslim, but we, not boo hooing, crying or weeping, but say with the beat of drum that while a single one of us Prophet-lovers is alive in this land, none can call you Muslim. ... You have been declared *Kafir* in every street and every neighborhood for licking the toes of a cursed and liar Mirza. A *Kalima* reciting Muslim who considers it an honour to sacrifice his parents, wife and children for the last Prophet, Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) how can this lover consider a cursed and liar a Prophet by comparison. Every child in this country is ready for years to fight for, be cut down, wiggle and die for the end of prophethood and

honour of Muhammad Mustafa. Followers and lackeys of the Mirza have forgotten the legal kicks and fists on their cursed faces; they once again are putting Muslims on trial. For this reason, Abdul Shakoor was hurriedly carried to the US, in the middle of night, so as to be there in advance of the visit of Prime Minister Imran Khan.... Qadianis' outcry is not a political issue, it is purely religious and is a question of honour with millions and billions of Muslims.....

“No Muslim has ever objected to the rights granted to them in the Constitution, but if they tamper with Constitution or law to obtain a certificate of being Muslim, while being a *Kafir*, they will have to become a spectacle in this country. We said this before, and we say it again that a challenge to the faith of Muslims amounts to playing with fire. Those who earlier played with this fire, turned into ashes forever. Now, he who would choose to play with this fire in the interest of his politics, power and support to Qadianis will turn into ash and dust. Accordingly, do bear in mind your end at the start, before you maliciously reconsider (a change in) the law on Protection of the End of Prophethood.”

Mr. Jozevi attributes his diatribes and fulmination to his ‘love of the Holy Prophet’, but the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was always respectful to the religious leaders of other communities, and the Holy Quran documented forever the injunction: “And abuse not those whom they call upon besides Allah, lest they out of spite, abuse Allah in their ignorance.” (6:109) Jozevi claims to be a Muslim but he has clearly violated the command of Allah and the directions of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.). He has openly promoted ‘enmity between religious feelings of Ahmadis through deliberate and malicious act’, thus he has violated PPC 153-A and 295-A. Will the government of Pakistan and Punjab hold him accountable as per law? Also will the APNS and CPNE consider advising the vernacular media on minimum professional standards of Code of Ethics in journalism. Mr. Jozevi and the dailies who published his op-ed have indeed risked ample disgrace to Pakistani culture and literati.

Facebook removes profile frame targeting Ahmadiyya community

August 2019: The daily Dawn published the following story on July 31, 2019:

Facebook removes profile frame targeting Ahmadiyya community
[AFP | Dawn.com](#)

July 31, 2019

The profile frame withdrawn by Facebook called for the death of the Ahmadis in Urdu and was widely shared in Pakistan. — Pixabay/File

Facebook said on Wednesday it has removed a profile frame targeting Pakistan's Ahmadiyya community as the media giant continues to grapple with the proliferation of hate speech on the social network.

Profile frames are filters Facebook users can add to their pictures that often promote a cause, celebrate a holiday, or commemorate an event or tragedy.

The frame withdrawn by Facebook called for the death of the Ahmadis in Urdu and was widely shared in Pakistan.

"We have removed the Profile Frames in question for violating our rules, and have ensured that they're unavailable for future use," a Facebook spokesperson told *AFP* via email.

"We do not tolerate any content — including anything shared within Profile Frames — that incites violence, and we remove this content whenever we become aware of it."

The frame was extensively used by Pakistani Facebook users after US President Donald Trump met with several leading members of religious groups in the White House earlier this month, including a representative from Pakistan's Ahmadiyya community.

Facebook disabled 2.19 billion accounts in the first quarter of this year, nearly double the number of accounts nixed in the prior three-month period.

The social network took down four million posts considered hate speech in the first quarter of this year and continues to invest in technology to better detect such material in various languages and regions.

However Facebook has been battered by criticism that it was more focused on growth than protecting users or thwarting deception, bullying, and harassment.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1497292/facebook-removes-profile-frame-targeting-ahmadiyya-community>

Anti-Ahmadiyya activities near peak in Pir Mahal, Punjab

Pir Mahal; District Toba Tek Singh, August 2019: Recently, Mr. Abdul Shakoor, an Ahmadi victim of persecution, was invited to a Ministerial program in United States of America. There Mr. Shakoor called on the US President along with some other victims. His call video became viral in Pakistan. This initiated hateful anti-Ahmadi activities in Pir Mahal too. Opponents made life hard for Ahmadis there. A few recent incidents are mentioned below:

- On July 19, 2019 a procession was taken out in the name of Khatme Nabuwat. Slogans like **"Death in slavery of Prophet (pbuh) is also acceptable"** were raised. After the event, participants of the rally were very vociferous against the community on social media. They shared anti-Ahmadiyya video with local shopkeepers to spread hatred.
- An Ahmadi youth Syed Tahir Ahmad worked as apprentice in a mobile-phone repairing shop in the town. His boss's attitude changed on knowing of his Ahmadiyya faith, and he occasionally took up arguing with him religious

issues. One day his boss's friend came to their shop and used foul language against the Ahmadiyya community. Thereafter Ahmad's father stopped him going to the shop. His boss sent him a message that they would get him back at any cost, as they 'were concerned about him'. His boss also mentioned him to mullas, and one of them sent for Mr. Ahmad. Very upset, Mr. Ahmad fled from home.

- An Ahmadi Fazal Ahmad runs a jewellery shop here. His market-fellows stopped tea service to him, and approached their union president for his complete boycott. Now most shops show the stickers: **“Qadianis! first enter Islam, then enter the shop”**, and **“One who drinks Shezan juice will be deprived of the holy drink (at Hauze Kausar)”**.
- Mr. Muhammad Anwar Shehzad and his family joined Ahmadiyyat in July 2019. He runs a *tandoor* (clay oven for making bread) near the courts and the police station. His brother came to know of his belief shift, and he informed his parents and other relatives about it. They implemented a boycott of Mr. Shehzad. This news reached courts' employees and the area mosque.

The president of the local bar association called Mr. Shehzad and told him that everyone had turned against him. He told him that he would call him to his office to render an apology, close down his *tandoor* and leave the area to avoid any clash. Mr. Shehzad had to pack up his business.

The mulla of the local mosque assigned some youths to harass Mr. Shehzad. On August 23 at 10 p.m. some masked men attacked his home. His family locked themselves in a room for safety. The attackers bad-mouthed Mr. Shehzad and scuffled with him. At the

time of the attack, his TV was tuned to an Ahmadiyya channel, so the attackers smashed the TV and its dish antenna. On leaving they threatened to burn down his house if he did not recant.

A leading mulla, claimant to commitment to end of prophethood, found involved in extensive money laundering, support to terrorism etc.

Islamabad; August 8, 2019: Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi is an influential mulla who is Chairman of Pakistan Ulama Council and also head of the Punjab Mutahiddah Ulama Board. In the latter capacity he is on the pay roll of the provincial government. He is a master of mixing politics and religion to wield unfitting influence in halls of power. Thus he often employs the issue of End of Prophethood for personal gain. Recently he declared in public regarding Ahmadis, “I am not willing to accept them in this country...Inter-religion talk is a great thing, inter-sect talk is also great; but remember, Qadianiat is neither a religion nor a sect; it is an evil, created by the British. It is an evil created to attack Islam, Quran and Jihad, and it is created to attack the Khatme Nabuwat of the Holy Prophet (pbuh)...” This month there was a news item in the press and on TV about him and we reproduce it here to show how he and his type ‘debase a religious issue by pressing it into service for a temporal purpose and exploit religious susceptibilities and sentiments of the people for their personal ends,’ as brought out by worthy judges in the 1954 Munir Enquiry Report on Punjab Disturbances. The following is translation of a three column news from the daily Jahan e Pakistan of August 8, 2019:

Police case against Tahir Ashrafi on Money Laundering and Assistance to Terrorism. None included in Stop List.

Chairman Ulama Council received Rs 22.508300 million from a foreign NGO and Rs 4.344516 million from Germany.

Money used for illegal purposes; involvement in financial support to terrorists; charges proved in investigation: FIA

Islamabad (Agencies, Monitoring Desk)...

Ahmadi deprived of livelihood for his faith

Mustafa Abad, Lahore; July 2019: Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad had a wholesale business of industrial electrical goods in the main market of Misri Shah in Mustafa Abad, Lahore. His shop was small, so he hired a bigger one. He was shifting the stock to the new shop on July 20, 2019 when the owner of the shop came there with the market committee and said to him, “I have come to know that you are a Qadiani. Firstly I went to the cleric of the local mosque and then to Data Darbar and have brought a *fatwa* of *Dawat Islami* against you. Therefore you have to vacate my shop.”

Mr. Ahmad had no option but to comply with the hateful *fatwa* against him. While he was vacating the shop, he saw a few mullas in front of the shop. So he hurried the shifting, and piled up the entire stock in his house. He is now searching for another shop to earn some livelihood for his family.

Hostility mounts after Shakoor Bhai’s call on President Trump

Hostility against Ahmadis has shot up visibly after Mr. Abdul Shakoor *aka* Shakoor Bhai’s call on President Trump last month. The meeting was not requested by the Ahmadiyya community nor arranged by Ahmadis. A conference is held in the US every year to promote religious freedom worldwide, and selected victims of religious persecution are invited from all over the world to the event. Shakoor Bhai who had been in prison on faith-based charges for more than three years got an invitation to attend this

meeting. There he was one among many to meet President Trump, to whom he briefly mentioned his personal ordeal.

Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community, rather than feeling ashamed of their treatment of the victimized community, decided to add fuel to the fire of hatred, and made this call a great anti-Pakistan and anti-Islam issue. Some instances of this campaign are briefly mentioned below:

1. One, Sajid in a WhatsApp group, “Educators of Punjab” urged its members to not only observe the Week of Khatme Nabuwat and Rebuttal of Qadianiat but also take concrete steps to boycott them. He specially targeted an Ahmadi who owned a shopping store at the Johar Abad bus stop.
2. An Ahmadi youth in Sanjar Chang, District Hyderabad had an argument with a non-Ahmadi fellow on a religious topic. The fellow shared his voice messages in a WhatsApp group, who reported this to the police. The police arrested the Ahmadi youth and his brother too. They were however released later.
3. An Ahmadi went to the local prayer centre of Nasir Packages, General Hospital, Lahore to deliver food to the caretaker there. The locals assembled outside the prayer centre, laid siege to it and told Ahmadis to not say their prayers there. The two Ahmadis inside became hostages. The police were informed, who arrived and rescued them. The mob dispersed after 9:30 p.m.
Sameer, a non-Ahmadi shopkeeper next to the Ahmadiyya prayer centre is very active against Ahmadis. He put some anti-Ahmadiyya posters and pictures on his WhatsApp status and sent them to an Ahmadi youth as well.
4. An unidentified man came to the Ahmadiyya mosque of Dehli Gate,

Lahore and put up three anti-Ahmadiyya panaflexes there. One flex was placed on the wall of the mosque. The Ahmadi youth on duty removed it, but the man returned to place another flex there. It carried anti-Ahmadiyya writings: “I believe without any evidence that Qadianis are infidels. Qadianis are *Wajibul Qatl* (must be killed)”. The police were informed; they came and removed the flexes and took these away with them. Similar anti-Ahmadiyya flexes were also put up in areas next to Dehli Gate and Akbari Mandi (the lead story refers).

5. Anti-Ahmadiyya banners were put up in Moon Market, Gulshan Ravi area of Lahore on August 2, 2019. Such banners were displayed on Malik Muneer Road and at seven other locations. It was written on them: “**Countless curses on Qadianis.**” The police made no arrests.
6. A Roshan Pakistan Conference was held in Mirpur Khas on July 19, 2019. Its agenda was, “**Foreigners’ intervention, Qadiani lobby, etc**”. Later, banners were put up at different places in the city, with inscription, “Attention please! We don’t deal with Qadianis. First enter Islam, then the shop.”

A campaign of boycott of Ahmadis is underway in Shaukatabad, District Nankana. Hateful and provocative posters are put up in streets. People are discouraged to go to Ahmadi shopkeepers. Sale of common household items is denied to Ahmadis. When opponents were putting up posters on walls on August 2, 2019 the police arrived, removed these posters and took the miscreants with them. At this the opponents led an anti-Ahmadiyya procession and incited the public against Ahmadis. An Ahmadiyya delegation met the DPO and asked for action against miscreants. The DSP called both the parties on August 20 and heard them. He reprimanded the agitators and told them to remove all the hateful posters and stickers by the next day. The opponents did not comply with

DSP’s orders. They threatened to take out another procession, but desisted from doing so, on pressure of the police. Ahmadis feel greatly threatened and disturbed.

Duo of the infamous Ahrar and End of Prophethood organizations

Lahore: It is not a well-kept secret that the Khatme Nabuwwat (KN) movement is an offshoot and successor of the discredited Majlis Ahrar Islam. When Ahrari mullas were disgraced for their leadership of the anti-Ahmadi riots in Punjab in 1953, the top Ahrari mullas shifted to the Khatme Nabuwwat movement whose facade was to be non-political. The close relationship of the two parties shows up in public off and on. It became obvious again recently. See the joint ad below in the daily Islam of July 26, 2019:



As a result of the anti-Ahmadiyya riots, martial law had to be imposed in Lahore in 1953. The governments in the Punjab and the

Centre fell, and a high level Court of Inquiry was constituted under Punjab Act II of 1954 to enquire into the Punjab Disturbances of 1953. The Court comprised Justice Muhammad Munir, the Chief Justice of Lahore High Court as the President and Justice M.R. Kayani as the Member.

This court worked hard over months and eventually produced its Report that has proved to be one of the few most readable such documents on issues of national, societal and religious significance to the country. Here, we quote, very briefly, the Court's remarks on the conduct of Majlis Ahrar Islam:

"The conduct of the Ahrar calls for the strongest comment and is especially reprehensible. We can use no milder word for the reason that they debased a religious issue by pressing it into service for a temporal purpose and exploited religious susceptibilities and sentiments of the people for personal ends." p.259

Anyway, as stated above the Ahrar leadership went underground after this great misadventure and took refuge under the dome of the Khatme Nabuwwat organization. In the following decades, the Khatme Nabuwwat organization matured and performed its sectarian role quite successfully, and become a cover organization for all types of mullas including those who were committed to extremism and terrorism.

On the other hand Majlis Ahrar Islam revived itself some years later and was independent but fraternal with the KN organization. This unworthy arrangement is generally awarded a security grading of 'restricted' because of the ignoble past of the Ahrar; the beans, however, do spill out off and on.

We translate below the headlines and the bold lines of the above ad, leaving aside the five mentions in fine print:

In order to safeguard the belief in End of Prophethood and Honour of the Prophet (p.b.u.h.)

Respected Ulama, Religious Leaders and the great Sermon Imams of all Schools are strongly appealed to hold Protest Day

Today, July 26, 2019, shed light on the following situation in the Friday Sermons and get these Resolutions passed:

.....

From: Joint Movement Khatme Nabuwwat Liaison Committee Pakistan

Liaison: Office Majlis Ahrar Islam Pakistan

69-C; New Muslim Town (Wahdat Road) Lahore – Phone 042-45912644, 03006939453

Note: The above ad shows clearly the strong mutual bond between these two packs. Their policy of exploiting religion for their political and personal gains is also apparent to any keen observer. History is repeating itself, despite the clear statement and warning of the great judges in 1954.

Anti-Ahmadiyya conference scheduled in Ahmadiyya headquarters town, Rabwah

Rabwah, August 2018: A Khatme Nabuwwat conference at Jamia Usmania, Muslim Colony Chenab Nagar is scheduled for September 7, 2019. This year anti-Ahmadi activists are observing Ten-days of Khatme Nabuwwat, from 1st to 10th September, as well. Ahmadis apprehend threat to law and order in their city.

Mullas have been holding this Khatme Nabuwwat (end of prophethood) conference annually for the last 32 years in Rabwah. Participants are brought from different areas and cities to Rabwah. In this conference, speakers use foul language against Ahmadis through loudspeakers. They agitate the audience and prompt them to take extreme actions against the community. This seriously disturbs the peaceful environment of the city.

It is noteworthy that the opponents of Jamaat Ahmadiyya are always permitted to hold this provocative program in Rabwah. On the other hand, Ahmadis are not allowed to hold

their traditional peaceful conference in their own town. The new government has made no change to the practice of former regimes.

This year, Ahmadiyya head office wrote this to the concerned authorities:

“It will be appropriate in view of the national sensitive political situation to not grant permission for such a conference that causes serious threat to peace. This conference is part of an organized, bigoted and gruesome drive against Jamaat Ahmadiyya; ... Now if this conference causes any untoward incident, then its entire responsibility will be that of its participants and the Administration.

“It is hoped that you will choose proper modus operandi to maintain the peaceful environment and disallow the conference. This sensitive and immediate issue demands your special attention.”

Hate campaign and threats in Sindh

Qambar Ali Khan; Sindh, July 25, 2019: Members of JUI (F) are organizing agitation and processions in Qambar Ali Khan. They knock at doors of Ahmadis’ houses and harass them. At times they argue with Ahmadi children and ask them to recite the *Kalima* (Creed). Often they beat the front doors of Ahmadis’ homes or throw stones at them and run away.

Tajdare Khatme Nabuwwat a sub-organization of JUI (F) is involved in all this. In 2007 a police case was registered against Ahmadis in Qambar Ali Khan. Now, the perpetrators threaten Ahmadis with reopening the case to make their lives difficult.

Ahmadis have reported the unrest to authorities.

Anti-Ahmadiyya event in Lahore

Mughalpura; Lahore, August 24, 2019: A training course was organized here by the local Majlis Tahafuzze Khatme Nabuwwat. In this, they used foul language against the Ahmadiyya community and said that all schools of thought

of the Muslim world unanimously declared Qadianis to be out of the pale of Islam, and consider them to be followers of a new religion other than Islam. In Pakistan, all religious and academic institutions support this, it was said. Pakistan’s parliament and judiciary have declared them a minority in view of this unanimous decision. United Nations, NGOs and others are aggressively intervening in our religious and internal matters, they said.

Authorities move on sham complaint

Chak Nr. 6 Bumbaseer, Distt. Bahawalpur; August 2019: A plot of land, owned by Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya is located here. It was an open plot with no surrounding walls. So, to avoid trespass it was decided to build its surrounding walls. The construction began and it was ninety percent complete when the police came there and said that they had received a report that Ahmadis were building a worship place. They took some photographs, prepared a video of the site and went away.

A mulla’s reading of Pakistan law

Okara; August 2019: One Muhammad Hanif of D Block Okara has sent an application against Ahmadis to the Chief Justice Supreme Court, Chief Justice Lahore High Court, the District and Session Judge Okara and the Deputy Commissioner Okara.

He has taken the plea that Ahmadis have a mosque in the Main Chowk of D Block in Okara, built long ago, with 6 or 7 minarets; while ‘as per the 1973 Constitution these people are not allowed to construct mosques, nor the minarets, nor can they call themselves Muslim, cannot make call for prayers, nor call their religion Islam, but they continue to do do – as such the authorities should act against them and demolish forthwith the minarets of their mosque.

Mr. Hanif is wrong in his interpretation of the law; but he cannot be blamed for moving an application, as a number of times authorities have taken follow-up action on such applications to the entire satisfaction of bigots like him.

Ahmadis behind bars

1. A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis, Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in Police Station Sharaqpur. Two days later Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. A year later the deadly clause PPC 295-C was added to their charge-sheet at the suggestion of a high court judge. A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017. Appeal against this decision has been made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them in over a year and half. These three Ahmadis are in prison for the last 5 years.
2. Mr. Saeed Ahmad Waraich was charged on a false complaint of blasphemy under PPC 295-C with FIR Nr. 645 in Tandlianwala police station, District Faisalabad on January 20, 2018. He was arrested a day earlier. He is under trial.
3. Mr. Javed Ahmad Ghumman was charged in a fabricated blasphemy case under PPC 295-C in police station Chobara, District Layya on July 1, 2018 in FIR Nr. 288/18. His interim bail was cancelled on July 14, 2018; he was arrested and sent to Layya Jail. Rai Yasseen Shaheen the Additional Sessions Judge Layya refused his post-arrest bail on August 6. Later, on October 2, 2018 his bail application was refused by High Court Justice Sarfraz Ahmad of Multan Bench also. Now his case is under

trial and his bail application is pending before the Sessions Court in District Layyah.

From the Media

- **Annual Khatme Nabuwwat Conference on September 7 is of great importance: Qari M Qasim Baloch**
The daily Jinnah, Lahore; August 26, 2019
- **Four members of former Aman Lashkar killed in bomb blast (in upper Dir)**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 19, 2019
- **Four soldiers martyred in North Waziristan attacks**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 3, 2019
- **20,000 youth of Khatme Nabuwwat Movement ready to undertake Jihad in Kashmir: (IKNM Punjab in Islamabad)**
The daily Aman, Faisalabad; August 26, 2019
- **4 worshipers dead and over 23 injured in remote controlled explosion in mosque at Kachlok, Baluchistan**
The daily Jang, Lahore; August 17, 2019
- **Two security men martyred in Bajaur blast**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 6, 2019
- **Two soldiers martyred in South Waziristan**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 18, 2019
- **(Mulla) Tahir Ashrafi booked in police case for assisting money laundering/terrorism assistance**
The Chairman Ulama Council received Rs 22.508 million from a foreign NGO and Rs 4.344156 million from Germany
The daily Jahan-e-Pakistan, Lahore; August 8, 2019
- **That he (Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui) was unfit to be a judge was proven when he delivered some of the most hate-fuelled, bigoted judgments of recent times in his short stint at the bench.**
Saroop Ijaz in the monthly The Herald, July 2019
- **Govt urged to implement SC order on minority rights**
Rights body calls for reformation of curriculum to foster tolerance in society
The daily The News, Lahore; August 26, 2019

- **From religious point of view it is not licit to fight Israelis. Zionist are guarding the Masjid Aqsa; attack forbidden: Abdul Aziz Alsheikh (Saudi Mufti Azam)**
The daily Mashriq, Lahore; August 26, 2019
- **Blast on bus kills 34 Afghans, wounds 17**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 1, 2019
- **Indians fire cluster munitions on areas along LOC**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 4, 2019
- **India-occupied Kashmir under lockdown**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 5, 2019
- **New Delhi sheds fig leaf, robs held Kashmir of special status**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 6, 2019
- **Indian envoy told to leave Pakistan, trade suspended**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 8, 2019
- **In case of limited nuclear (Indo-Pak) exchange, 21 million could die; two billion will face starvation...US President Bill Clinton said that Kashmir is the most dangerous place on earth**
The daily Jang, Lahore; August 18, 2019
- **It's India's internal matter but IHK situation has implications outside India border: US**
The daily The News, Lahore; August 22, 2019
- **After Emirates, Bahrain also bestows highest award on Modi**
The daily Jang, Lahore; August 26, 2019
- **Five more youth martyred in Held Kashmir in fake encounter. Strong protest.**
The daily Jang, Lahore; August 1, 2019
- **Imran says world reaction would have been stronger if Kashmiris were not Muslims**
The daily The Express Tribune, Lahore; August 31, 2019
- **Kabul: 63 dead, 183 injured in suicide attack on a wedding reception**
The daily Jang, Lahore; August 19, 2019
- **70 child abuse victims sue Catholic Church in New York**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 15, 2019
- **40 migrants feared drowned as boat capsizes off Libya**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 28, 2019
- **Frenchman zips across English Channel by flyboard**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 5, 2019
- **S. Arabia eases travel curbs on women**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 22, 2019
- **Maryam, cousin remanded in NAB custody**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 10, 2019
- **Rana Sana's son-in-law arrested**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 10, 2019
- **14 defectors save Sanjrani in anticlimactic Senate (Chairman) vote**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 2, 2019
- **Agreement over 35000 madrassahs' registration with Ministry of Education**
The daily Khabrain, Lahore; August 28, 2019
- **Entry of over 200 ulama banned in Sargodha region**
The daily Aman, Faisalabad; August 29, 2019
- **115 ulama banned (by Sindh government) to enter Sindh**
The daily Jahan-e-Pakistan, Lahore; August 30, 2019
- **22000 Madrassahs registered; 71 organizations banned; 56 terrorists hanged: Action Report on National Action Plan**
The daily 92 News, Faisalabad; August 18, 2019
- **Inflation hits double digits after nearly six years**
The daily Dawn, Lahore; August 2, 2019

Oped: Justice On Trial

Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui's case, similarly, shows why the trial of a judge in Pakistan is more often than not meant to punish him for something other than his personal or judicial misconduct. He should never have been appointed a judge of the Islamabad High Court (or any court) in the first place. That he was unfit to be a judge was proven when he delivered some of the most hate-fueled, bigoted judgments of recent times in his short stint at the bench. He should have been held accountable for displaying an undiluted hatred – bordering on incitement to violence – against the already vulnerable minority groups. He was not. When he did face accountability it was making a speech in a bar room at the Islamabad High Court wherein he alleged that security and intelligence agencies were influencing the judges.

This is not to suggest that he should have been exempt from the general and important principle of judges speaking through their judgments and not through speeches or news tickers. On the contrary, politics, even what one considers the right kind of politics in a particular instance, does not make the judges' code of conduct redundant.

Taking a full stock of misconduct and abuse of power in the case of both Siddiqui and Justice Chaudhary would have helped the cause of both judicial independence and the accountability of judges.

Saroop Ijaz in the monthly the Herald, July 2019

Twitter: Kashif N Chaudhary liked

Mehar Tarar @Mehtar Tarar – 3d

Agreed

Kashif N Chaudhary @ Kas 22 Aug

Imagine how strong Pakistan's position in front of international community would be if it had no anti-Ahmadi laws/blasphemy laws in place. We weaken ourselves when we oppress our minorities. It is in our best interest to repeal these laws and face the world with heads held high.

2:19 A M 22 Aug 19 Twitter for I Phone

65 Retweets 212 likes

Op-ed: Qadianis attack Pakistan again?

... At the world level, Qadianis are fast seeking the sympathies of the non-Muslim powers over their fake persecution. Peace and Qadianis are mutually contradictory. Qadianis have always hit the roots of Pakistan through collaboration with foreign powers. They are declared enemies of Islam and Pakistan, and their conspiracies against the beloved country are no secret. Belief in the End of Prophethood is fundamental to every Muslim's faith. We cannot bear up at all with the appointment of Qadianis on important posts in this country that was acquired in the name of Islamic creed (*Kalima Tayyaba*). They should be removed forthwith from important posts and barred from anti-Islam and anti-Pakistan activities. In this, not only the government should meet its constitutional and Sharia responsibilities, the people themselves should keep an eye on Qadianis' activities and report these; it is their weighty responsibility.

Kamran Goraya in the daily Khabrain of August 20, 2019

Annex: An article by Mr. Usman Ahmad - The absence of identity

The absence of identity

Usman Ahmad

August 01, 2019

So lost am I with where to begin that perhaps the best place to start is with this moment; me staring blankly into the screen of my desktop trying to pull together in my head all the missing parts of myself. The effect is inconclusive. Almost hypnotic. But it brings no clarity to my thoughts, only a sense of resentment at myself for scuffing my shoes as I beat the top of my feet against the floor to release all the nervous energy that rises out of my frustration.

It is a familiar ritual. This is not the first time I have found myself struggling to respond to a giant swell of hatred that strikes against the very truth of who I am. With it, a dull sort of pain thuds at the back of my head. I feel insufficient and small and inarticulate. And undone.

At times like these, I am also struck by an unnerving absence of trauma equal to the many visceral agonies that have defined the lives of so many others around me. I have not lost a child or a parent in a sectarian killing. I did not grow up being called an infidel at school. I have not had the door to my home graffitied with abuse. I have not been incarcerated for ordinary acts of everyday life. There is though a part of their experience I have shared in, that of being an Ahmadi in Pakistan, a country where we are permitted to live in, but never allowed to belong to.

Do you know what that feels like? To live in a home that is not a home, in an empty space that stretches out from the distant echoes of the past to the infertile darkness of the future. As much as one may try to overcome it, you can never get used to being cast as an outsider in a place that is supposed to be yours. There is no way to prepare for the shrinking of your reality to the point where the only things that remain part of your world are the ones that are impossible to maintain. Instead you disappear. Not completely. Traces of you are seen in the bodies of strangers. You are the hollow pause of a conversation. When you do assume the fullness of your form, it is worn by others, and then it is denied.

How am I supposed to account for all of this? I have tried and written and written and written in search for a deeper realisation or a sense of understanding of what it means for people to live with the wounds of hatred. Yet the only thing that has ever held true is that there is no nuance to the foundational reality of their existence or the texture of their suffering; no way of being seen as anything other than a transgression; just different ways of not belonging.

As I continue to drum my fingers against the keyboard, there is something missing. A central idea, or an insight, or any real point that I want to get across. For years I have sought rapprochement with the irreconcilable. Something between malice and acceptance, between the cold and the warmth, between the living and the dead. I

have never found an answer. Actually no. That's not quite true. There was much I did discover. Just nothing that lay beyond the wreckage of betrayal and heartbreak.

This is what I do know.

In the conception of what it means to be a Pakistani, the place of Ahmadis is conditional and contingent. We are marked out as different and expected to live with what that entails. Our core identity isn't based on what we are, but what we are not. 'Non' is the chosen prefix to our entire existence. To be anything other than an Ahmadi is to be human and universal. We know this because we are not part of this equation. Hatred of us lies at the central formation of Pakistan. It is the moral principle by which people recognize themselves and operate together.

There is nothing that lies outside of this, but that was never what I needed to understand. The things I have always struggled to see the most are the self-evident truths that have stood as clear as day before me. Their edges are sharper than they have ever been because they no longer give way to the blur of a question mark; to things uncertain and mysterious and full of alternative potentials.

It suddenly crosses my mind that maybe even this is not important. This time the hostility that has brought me back here could just be about me. Sometimes you write just to fill a void, to allow yourself a moment of personal intimacy. It is a sort of company. A companion to bear the weight of your living. I cannot resolve the idea that the country to which I belong wants nothing to do with me or that it is well past the point from which it can be rescued from its bigotry. I am mostly speaking to myself now. There are always other ways of making sense of the world. Of being free, a little bit freer anyway. You don't have to speak for everyone all of the time. But you do have to speak, even if what you say struggles to reach out to a deeper layer of meaning. Because of the absence of your identity. Because the privilege of silence is another thing they have taken away.

<https://nation.com.pk/01-Aug-2019/the-absence-of-identity>