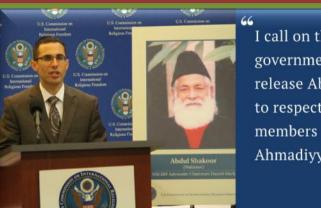
# A Report on Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan During the year 2017 (Summary)





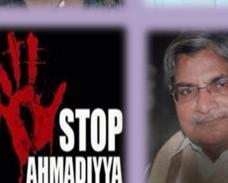
I call on the Pakistani government to immediately release Abdul Shakoor...and to respect and protect all members of Pakistan's Ahmadiyya community.

Daniel Mark

U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

#FreeReligiousPrisoners







#### Cover

Top left: 26 Ahmadis suffered arrest or detention this year in religion-based cases

Top right: Twitter message by Chair USCIRF to release octogenarian Ahmadi sentenced on bogus terrorism charges

Bottom left: A few of those murdered for their faith, this year

Bottom right: One of the fake graves in a street with hateful message: "Bomb the Ahmadi dog"

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### Abbreviations

APC All Parties Conference ASI Assistant Sub-inspector (of Police) ASJ Additional Sessions Judge ATC Anti-terrorism Court ATA Anti-terrorism Act CDA Capital Development Authority CIA Criminal Investigation Agency CJI Council of Islamic Ideology CJI Chief Justice CM Chief Minister CMC Computerized National Identity Card CTDC Counter-terrorism Department CPO City Police Officer CTD Counter-terrorism Department DC Deputy Commissioner DCO District Coordination Officer DHA Defence Housing Authority DIG Deputy Inspector General of Police ECL Exit Control List EXIT Information Report EXPANSIONAL Administered Tribal Areas EXPANSIONAL Administered Tribal Areas EXPANSIONAL Administered Tribal EXPANSIONAL Administered EXPANSI	AJK AMTR	Azad Jammu and Kashmir K <b>N</b> Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme	JUP KN	Jamiat Ulamae Pakistan Khatme Nabuwwat
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#### Glossary

aalami: internationalallama: great savant

aman: peace

amir: head; president
anjuman:association; union

augaf: endowment

azan: Islamic call for prayer

chak: village

Dajjal: The great Fraudster; Anti-Christ

deeni sha'air: religious topics

*dharna:* sit-in

Eid-ul-Fitr: Islamic festival after

Ramzan

fatwa: religious edict fiqah: jurisprudence fitna: great mischief

gherau: siege

hadd: Islamic punishment

Hadith: traditions of the Holy Prophet

haram: illicit in Islam

hafiz: one who has memorized the Holy

Quran

hajj: pilgrimage to MakkaHazrat: title for respect

hilal: moon of first three nights

hizb: group idarah: institution

iftar: opening of Islamic fast ijtihad: Islamic term for finding a

religious solution

ijtima: gathering; conference

imam: religious leader

ittihad: union

*ialsa:* conference; convention

jamaat: community jamia: religious seminary jamiat: community; group jihad: holy struggle; holy war kafir: disbeliever; infidel Kalima:Islamic creed

khalifa: caliph

Khalifatul Masih: Ahmadiyya caliph khatib: one who delivers Friday sermon Khatme Nabuwwat:end of prophethood

khilafat: caliphate

khula: when a women asks for divorce

majlis: association markaz: centre

Masih-e-Maud: the Promised Messiah

masjid: mosque

maulana: senior religious cleric; scholar

maulvi: religious cleric; scholar millat: closely knit society

minhaj: path

*Mirzai:* pejorative name for Ahmadi *mufti:* one who has the authority to

issue an edict

Muharram: an Islamic month

mujahideen:soldiers undertaking jihad

*mulla:*religious cleric

murabbi: Ahmadi religious teacher

muttahidah: united

Namus Risalat: honour of prophethood

nikah: Islamic announcement of

marriage

*Nizame Mustafa:* Islamic system

pardah: Islamic veil

*Qadiani:* pejorative name for Ahmadi *Qadianiat/Qadianism:* pejorative name

for Ahmadiyya belief

*gari:* reciter of the Holy Ouran

qurbani: Islamic ritual of offering cattle

on Eid-ul-Azha rabitah: alliance

Ramzan: Islamic month of fasting
Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya: main body of
Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan

salaam: peace

salaat: Islamic prayer

Seerat Nabi: attributes of the Prophet

(PBUH)

tafseer: commentary tahaffuze: safeguard tanzeem: organisaton tahrik: movement

*ulama:* religious scholars; clerics

ummah: Islamic nation

wajib-ul-gatl: must be killed as per

religious duty

wifag: central; federal

zakaat: Islamic charity for poor

zindah baad: long live

# **Foreword**

It is forty-three years since Mr. Zulfiquar Ali Bhutto violated the injunction of the founding father of Pakistan that the state would not interfere in matters of religion or belief of its citizens, and proceeded to amend the constitution to declare Ahmadis 'Not-Muslim'. Ten years later General Zia promulgated Ordinance XX that made it a punishable offence for Ahmadis to practice the religion of Islam. This opened the flood gate of tyranny and persecution against this community. The gate has remained open ever since although numerous military and democratic regimes have come and gone.

Ordinance XX was so encompassing and malevolent that Yohanan Friedmann, a research scholar, in his book 'Prophecy Continuous' wrote: "The Ordinance promulgated by the President on April 26, 1984 goes a long way in accepting the most extreme anti-Ahmadi demands and transforms much of the daily life of the community into a criminal offence." (University of California Press, 1989, p. 46)

The hostility of General Zia harmed Ahmadis in many ways. He introduced Separate Electorates in place of Joint Electorates, and allowed Ahmadis to exercise their right of vote only as non-Muslims. This was not acceptable to Ahmadis as it seriously violated their right to profess their religion. This restriction remained operative during the subsequent regimes, after his death. In 2002, General Musharraf reintroduced Joint Electorates, but reneged soon afterwards, and through the Chief Executive Order No. 15 of 2002 re-imposed a separate electoral list for Ahmadis as Non-Muslims. This again deprived Ahmadis their voting rights, with obvious political and social dire consequences.

The promulgation of Ordinance XX in 1984, made it clear to everyone in Pakistan that Ahmadis were not equal citizens in the country. Anti-Ahmadi mullas got the hint and freely preached the doctrine of 'death for apostates' and Ahmadis being *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (must be put to death) for allegedly defiling the Holy Prophet (PBUH) for their belief in their founder as a 'prophet'. As a result hundreds of Ahmadis have been murdered for their faith – 260 to be exact. Not even five percent of the perpetrators have been brought to justice.

The Ordinance became a convenient tool of persecution of Ahmadis, as designed. To-date more than three and half thousand Ahmadis have suffered prosecution on religion-based charges. This year 77 Ahmadis were booked.

The Ordinance forbade Ahmadis to make a call for prayers. They could not pray in the open. They were forbidden to assemble in religious open-air meetings. Police have interfered with religious practice of sacrificing cattle at the festival of Eid ul Adha. Scores of Ahmadiyya mosques have been attacked, damaged, sealed and handed over to other Muslims.

It is now more than 40 years that Ahmadis have suffered discrimination and maltreatment in all walks of life including education, jobs, business, governance, availability of justice, human rights, freedom of religion etc. No politician has dropped even a hint to provide some relief to Ahmadis. Demands and announcements in public to 'do more' in this field of persecution are frequently reported in the vernacular press.

Pakistan has suffered greatly at the hands of the mulla in the past decade. In year 2017, the government allowed the mullas of Tahrik Labbaik Ya Rasool Allah to partly block the capital over the issue of voting rights of Ahmadis, in the name of 'end of prophethood'. Inept handling of the agitation brought defeat and humiliation to the federal government. In conclusion, voting right given to Ahmadis in Election Act 2017 was withdrawn. The provincial governments, notably the Punjab, KPK and Azad Jammu and Kashmir went out of their way to show that they are in league with the mulla in his anti-Ahmadiyya campaign.

It is not only the mulla and the politician who find it rewarding to indulge in persecution of Ahmadis, the judiciary joins in too. This year three Ahmadis who were charged initially for tearing away an anti-Ahmadiyya poster were made to face charge of blasphemy on orders of a judge, and were then sentenced to death.

This report may appear voluminous, but it is essentially a brief of all the extensive persecution of Ahmadis that went on throughout the year. For those who are short of time, an Executive Summary is provided at the beginning. Spotlights are listed soon after the Summary. A thematic mention is available in the beginning this year, rather than in the last annex as was the practice in the past. A few running totals are given in Annex II. For essential details of an incident, please go to the relevant chapter.

This year a list of *abbreviations* and a *glossary* are provided in the opening pages.

News headlines from the national press, which have a direct or indirect bearing on Ahmadis, are listed in Chapter 9. At its end, a few extracts from op-eds are printed. These words of wisdom carry a message that makes them useful reading.

But there are few who are prepared to act on 'words of wisdom' at a personal cost. The almost-failed state caters only for immediate gains of its powerful actors.

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# **Executive Summary**

Year 2017 was another very tough year for the Ahmadiyya community of Pakistan. Regrettably it came about in a regime that claims to be democratic.

The end of the year was particularly severe. An extensive agitation in the name of Khatme Nabuwwat (KN: End of Prophethood) was allowed by the powers that be, at the occasion of passage of Election Act 2017 and the resulting sit-in (*Dharna*) at Faizabad, Islamabad during which very hostile and damaging anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda was undertaken in the National Assembly and in the media which spared no time and no space for Ahmadis to even defend themselves. This developed a dangerous situation for the persecuted community. One is reminded of a statement to the UNHRC: "Need we remind the Council and the government of Pakistan that it was government and media support for expressions of hatred that led to the Nazi Holocaust and the genocide in Rwanda."

A most harmful outcome of this agitation was denial of voting rights to Ahmadis in the assembly elections, which has gone on for the last 32 years, and was addressed and partly remedied in Election Act 2017. A historical step in the right direction was then put back. In this denial of basic right, the mulla, the politician, the media, even the Islamabad high judiciary played their part.

Anti-Ahmadiyya laws and other religious laws continued to be applied against Ahmadis. During the year, 77 Ahmadiswere booked by the police under these laws on religion-based considerations. At the end of the year nine Ahmadis were in prison on faith-related allegations.

The judiciary, both at the apex as well as the lower levels showed little sympathy for the plight of Ahmadis. For example, three Ahmadis were booked and arrested by the police under PPC 295-A etc on May 12, 2014 for allegedly tearing an anti-Ahmadiyya poster. The FIR carried no mention of the deadly blasphemy clause PPC 295-C. A year later, at the request of the opponent party, a high court judge added this clause to the charge sheet. The accuseds' pleas for release on bail were rejected at all levels, even at the Supreme Court. Now they have been sentenced to death after remaining behind bars for three and half years. This case is unprecedented in the history of the terrifying blasphemy law in Pakistan.

In December 2016, the Punjab government had scored another first; it had launched its Counter-terrorism squad and Elite Force to raid Ahmadiyya central offices in Rabwah for publishing a monthly *Tahrik Jadid*. The administrative ban had been stayed by a court order. Although the rulers were subsequently fully informed of the impropriety and lack of justification of the raid, they did not withdraw the case, and had two

innocent Ahmadi community workers sentenced to three years' imprisonment and Rs 50,000 fine under each section by a special court.

It was again the Punjab government that banned Ahmadiyya translations of the Holy Quran, the primary scripture of Ahmadis. Unbelievable but true. This was done on recommendation of the provincial Ulama Board. This Board was earlier responsible for proscription of the entire writings of the founder of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat, as also banning the Ahmadiyya daily and the community periodicals. All these actions are in clear violation of the Constitution, but the provincial government complies with whatever the Ulama Board proposes – atleast regarding Ahmadis. This Board is considering other measures to curtail further Ahmadis' human rights and freedom of religion.

In the Khatme Nabuwwat agitation this year, the ruling PML-N party was inflicted with surrender by the mulla on terms which were deplorable and insulting. Rather than making a recovery attempt from the politicized KN issues, the government decided to outdo the mulla. Captain ® Safdar, MNA, son-in-law of Mr. Nawaz Sharif spoke venomously and hatefully in the National Assembly against the Ahmadiyya community. In show of love for End of Prophethood, the government declared that they would celebrate year 2018 as "The Year of Awareness of End of Prophethood." The mulla had not put up this demand.

Azad Kashmir rulers, rather than learning from the mistakes of the Pakistan government in mishandling the mulla and his harmful agitation decided to appease him further through commitment to a higher level of bigotry than the existing in this territory. The AJK Assembly passed a resolution that it would incorporate all the anti-Ahmadi laws and provisions, promulgated by the Pakistan Government, in their own Provisional Constitution Act, 1974. Its prime minister Mr. Farooq Haider Khan assured the mullas in a meeting that "Immediate action will be taken against Qadianis' activities in Kotli."

In the mainland Pakistan, Ahmadiyya issue remained perhaps the only one on which political parties could get together and make joint statements and plans. On February 1, 2017, at the call of Maulana Fazl ur Rehman (JUI-F), an All Parties Conference was called in Dreamland Hotel, Islamabad for Namus Risalat (honour of the Prophet) conference. The ruling PML-N was duly represented by its stalwart Raja Zafrul Haq. In the final statement, the presiding Maulana immediately linked the End of Prophethood with the Honour of the Prophet and embarked upon hostile and damaging remarks and conclusions against the Ahmadiyya community.

The mulla was however exposed this year unambiguously. The anti-Ahmadi Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN) has operated for decades under the umbrella of religion and religious freedom. Most anti-Ahmadiyya activities are permitted to this organization by the authorities, for being religious. However this year's finding of intelligence agencies were published in the press that the AMTKN was

involved in murder of Ahmadis. We had been stating in the past this very fact, however we lacked official confirmation.

Disinformation and false anti-Ahmadi propaganda has been going on for decades in the media but it reached a new level this year on TV when a participant in a talk show accused Ahmadis of shooting in police uniform on Model Town protestors and killing many of them, in the notorious PAT case. The anchor of the show did not stop him nor asked him the supporting evidence. The channel management did not expunge it either prior to airing the show. Ahmadiyya office complained to PEMRA despite our past experience with such complaints.

Four Ahmadis were murdered for their faith this year, two of them in Lahore, the capital of the Punjab.

The government of the Punjab, nor the federal government took any remedial action to undo the excesses of their recent past. The ban on the written works of the founder of the Ahmadiyya community was not lifted, nor was permission granted to the Ahmadiyya daily The *Alfazl* and community periodicals (*Ansarullah, Misbah, Khalid, Tashheez* and *Tahrik Jadid*) to resume publishing. There is no public demand against these Ahmadiyya journals; it is only the mullas of the provincial Ulama Board whom the political leadership is committed to please. An unworthy policy.

Similarly, the Ahmadiyya mosque in Dulmial, District Chakwal remained locked, and the authorities did not unlock it to let the Ahmadis of the village worship in the only mosque they have. It is locked for over a year. The octogenarian Mr. Abdul Shakoor deserves a mention here. He is in prison for over two years on charge of selling allegedly hateful Ahmadiyya literature. The high court has not found time to hear his appeal. The Punjab government has not realized the gravity of its tyranny against a senior citizen who is obviously innocent of any real wrongdoing.

The news of the suffering of Ahmadis in Pakistan has reached across the seven seas. Sixteen members of the U.S. Congress wrote a letter on November 8, 2017 to Secretary of State Mr. Tillerson expressing their "profound concern over it." The Secretary went public to state: "Religious freedom is under attack in Pakistan."

The above is an echo of what neutral observers see in the country. Imtiaz Alam, a well-known writer concluded: "... This leaves the citizens of this country at the mercy of authoritarian state actors and violent extremists and bigots – all in the name of faith and 'national interest'. And this is how bigotry prevails – as the republic fails."

The News International, November 30, 2017

A set of Recommendations is available at page 13.

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# Spotlights – 2017

- ➤ The mulla imposed total surrender on spineless government over Ahmadiyya right of vote. Voting right facilitated in new law was withdrawn.(p.14)
- ➤ Three Ahmadis of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhupura were sentenced to death for alleged blasphemy. (p.35)
- ➤ Mr. Idrees Ahmad and Mr. Sabah-ul-Zafar were most wrongfully awarded three years' prison sentence by an Anti-terrorism court in Faisalabad. (p.36)
- $\triangleright$  Ahmadis disallowed in the Punjab to publish their main scriptures. (p.55)
- ➤ Seventy-seven Ahmadis were wrongfully booked by police in religion-based cases.
- ➤ Federal ministry of religious affairs announced celebrating 2018 as "Year of Awareness of End of Prophethood".
- ➤ PM Azad Kashmir indulged in anti-Ahmadiyya rhetoric to please mullas. "Immediate action will be taken against Qadianis' activities in Kotli": address in Ulama meeting.(*p.57*)
- ➤ All Parties Namus Risalat (honour of the Prophet) Conference targeting Ahmadis held in Dreamland Hotel, Islamabad(*p.28*)
- Azad Kashmir (AJK) Assembly passedanti-Ahmadiyya malicious resolution.(p.57)
- ➤ A press report implicated Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatm-i-Nabuwwat in murder of Ahmadis.(p.56)
- $\triangleright$  On private TV, in a slander and vilification statement, Ahmadis were accused of shooting in police uniform on Model Town protesters and killing many of them.(p.105)
- $\triangleright$  Ahmadiyya mosque in Dulmial remained locked, worship denied, throughout the year.(p.76)
- $\triangleright$  Four Ahmadis murdered for their faith, two of them in Lahore(p.32)
- ➤ Mr. Abdul Shakoor, octogenarian book-seller remained behind bars since December 2, 2015. (p.43)
- > Religious freedom under attack in Pakistan: Secretary Tillerson (p.111)

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# Summarized thematic info regarding the Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan during 2017

#### Ahmadis were murdered for their faith

- Mr. Saleem Lateef was target-killed on March 30, 2017 in Nankana.
- Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad was gunned down on April 7, 2017 in Lahore.
- Ms. Tahira Parveen Malik was murdered on April 18, 2017 in Lahore.
- Mr. Basharat Ahmad was killed on May 3, 2017 in Rahimyar Khan.

#### Faith-based murder attempts and assaults

- Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim survived an attack on his life on June 10, 2017 in Lahore.
- Armed men attempted attack on Mr. Basharat Ahmad in Syedwala on November 17.

#### **Religion-based arrests and prosecution**

• This year 77 Ahmadis were booked by the police while 26 suffered arrest or detention.

#### Attacks on worship and places of worship

- The Ahmadiyya mosque in Muridkay, District Sheikhupura was set on fire by a deranged youth at about 3 a.m. on August 28, 2017.
- The construction of Ahmadiyya community centre was stopped by the administration under the pressure of mullas in Kahkashan Colony, Rabwah.
- On demand of mullas, the administration stopped Ahmadis' worship in their local prayer centre in Iqbal Town, Lahore.
- Ahmadis were denied repairs and upgrade of their mosque in Mandhiala Waraich, District Gujranwala by the administration, under pressure of mullas, in June 2017.
- Ahmadis were denied construction of their community centre in Dhor, District Nawabshah, under pressure of mullas in June 2017.
- Ahmadis were denied construction of their prayer centre in Gorgaij, District Larkana in July 2017.
- The administration ordered Ahmadis to close down the main-gate of their mosque in December 2017 under the pressure of mullas in Lodhran.
- Ahmadis in Pilasor, District TT Singh were made to raise the outer wall of their mosque so that the minarets of their mosque became invisible from outside.
- The administration ordered Ahmadis to demolish the minarets and niche of their mosque in District Muzaffar Garh during December 2017.

#### **Religion-based tyranny**

- Mr. Idrees Ahmad and Mr. Sabah-ul-Zafar were most wrongfully awarded three years' prison sentence by an ATA court in Faisalabad on May 31, 2017.
- Seven more Ahmadi pressmen of Rabwah were implicated in a wrongful police case in Lahore on October 25, 2017.
- The President of Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya Rabwah (the main body of Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan) and Mr. Naseer Ahmad Farooqi, the District Amir of Ahmadiyya community in Quetta were booked under PPC 419, 420, 427 and 34 with FIR no. 140 in City police station, Quetta on October 11, 2017.
- The police booked Mr. Naveed A. Khan under T.P. 337H2 and violation of A02015-A013/20/65/2B on October 23, 2017 in Rabwah.
- The police arrested Mr. Shahbaz Ahmad Bajwa with FIR no. 31/17 under The Punjab Security Ordinance 2015, on February 19, 2017 in District Bahawalpur.
- The police registered a case against Mr. Muzaffar Ahmad under PPC 107/51 and arrested him in May 2017 in District Sialkot.
- Mr. Arif Ahmad and Mr. Amir Ahmad were implicated in a false police case under PPC 107/151 on November 17, 2017.
- Mr. Zafrullah was booked in a bogus police case under section 337/H, 34B etc.
- The mulla imposed total surrender on spineless government in October 2017 over Ahmadis' right of vote.
- Prime Minister Azad Kashmir stated on June 10, 2017, "Immediate action will be taken against Qadianis' activities in Kotli. ..."
- Captain ® Safdar of the ruling party made a rabidly anti-Ahmadiyya speech in the National Assembly on October 9, 10, 2017; the Speaker did not interrupt him.
- A resolution was moved in AJK Assembly by the ruling (PML-N) party on April 26, 2017 that Ordinance XX (anti-Ahmadiyya law) should be vigorously implemented in letter and spirit. The Assembly passed the resolution.
- Rana Sanaullah, Law Minister in Punjab also said, "Ahmadis, more than any other non-Muslim minority, are dangerous to the Islamic faith," (*The daily Din; Lahore, October 10, 2017*)
- All Parties Namus Risalat (honour of the prophet) Conference targeted Ahmadis in Dreamland Hotel, Islamabad on February 1, 2017.

#### Freedom of religion denied

- On March 13, 2017 two Ahmadis in Lahore, Mr. Amjad Iqbal Saloni and Mr. Ikram Ilahi were charged under PPC 298-C and 295-A. They were arrested and denied bail.
- Punjab government started afresh investigation whether Ahmadis are printing their prime and foremost scripture, the Holy Quran.
- Ahmadis were not allowed to practice their religious ritual of *Qurbani* on Eid-ul-Azha in some locations in the Punjab.

 Rana Sanaullah told the Punjab Assembly, "Constitution provides full religious freedom to all the minorities in Pakistan, but this could not be given to Ahmadis as they do not consider themselves a minority." October 2017

#### The Judiciary's role

- Three Ahmadis, Mr. Mubashir Ahmad, Mr. Ghulam Ahmad and Mr. Ihsan Ahmad of Bhoiwal were sentenced to death by a judge Muhammad Akram in Ferozwala on October 11, 2017.
- The police registered FIR Nr. 65 in March 2017 against 40 Ahmadis, in Police Station Choa Saydan Shah, District Chakwal for the murder of Mr. Naeem Shafiq a member of the rioting and attacking mob, which attacked Ahmadiyya mosque in Dulmial last year. This was done at the orders of a judge.

#### **Burial problems**

- Twenty Ahmadis of Lathianwala, District Faisalabad were charged under PPC 407/451 and arrested on October 6, 2017. They had resisted takeover of Ahmadis' cemetery land.
- Malik Safdar, brother of Malik Hameedulla former District Amir,was denied burial in the common cemetery in Daska, District Sialkot on October 28, 2017.

#### **Torture**

Mr. Riasat Ali was picked up by CTD personnel, taken to theirhide-out and tortured to obtain information on community affairs in August 2017.

#### **Blasphemy laws**

- Mr. Liaquat Ali Ranjha, Additional Session Judge, Jhelum sentenced Mr. Qamar Ahmad Tahir to imprisonment for life for allegedly defiling the Holy Quran, on July 1, 2017.
- Mr. Faheem Ahmad, an Ahmadi of Ganga Pur, District Faisalabad narrowly escaped being charged under blasphemy law in May 2017.
- Mr. Mohammad Yunus, an Ahmadi ownerof a registered private school in Khushab escaped an attempt of being accused under the blasphemy law in April 2017.

#### Hateful propaganda

- Hateful anti-Ahmadiyya posters were put up on road-signs in Islamabad in June 2017.
- Extensive hate campaign against Ahmadis went on unchecked all across the country.Rabwah remained vulnerable because of various conferences held in this town by anti-Ahmadi mullas, in which the participants were incited against the Ahmadiyya community.
- Islamabad sit-in in the name of End of Prophethood generated great deal of anti-Ahmadi propaganda.

#### **Ahmadi women**

• Ms. Tahira Parveen Malik was murdered on April 18, 2017 in Lahore.

• An Ahmadi lady faced harassment in a market in Lahore on April 8, 2017 for her religious identity.

#### **Threats**

Mr. Tasawwar Ahmad received threatening letter from the Khatme Nabuwwat organization in Hattar, District Hazara in November 2017.

#### Official encouragement to persecution of Ahmadis

- Anti-Ahmadiyya activities remained in high gear in Lahore the provincial capital this year as well. Mullas openly spread hate against Ahmadis.
- Official encouragement, facilitation, even participation remained rampant in numerous ways.

#### **Civic discrimination**

The municipal committee of Rabwah increased the local taxes by almost 100% for its residents, of whom 95% are Ahmadis.

#### **Impartial view**

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson stated that religious freedom was under attack in Pakistan. (*The daily Dawn of August 17, 2017*)

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#### So said the great leader Quaid-i-AzamMuhammad Ali Jinnah

"I assure you, Pakistan means to stand by its oft repeated promises of according equal rights to all its nationals irrespective of their caste or creed. Pakistan which symbolizes the aspirations of a nation that found itself to be a minority in the Indian subcontinent cannot be 'unmindful' of minorities within its own borders. It is a pity that the fair name of Karachi was sullied by the sudden outburst of communal frenzy last month and I can't find words strong enough to condemn the action of those who are responsible." February 1948 speaking to Parsis, Page 102-103 Jinnah Speeches and Statements 1947-1948, Oxford 1997

Even in the bar association speech of 25 January 1948, quoted by Dr Ishtiaq Ahmed and Islamists as proof of Jinnah's endorsement of a religious state, this is what Jinnah had to say:

"Islam has taught equality, justice and fair play to everybody. What reason is there for anyone to fear. Democracy, equality, freedom on the highest sense of integrity and on the basis of fairplay and justice for everyone. Let us make the constitution of Pakistan. We will make it and we will show it to the world." Page 98 Jinnah Speeches and Statements 1947-1948, Oxford 1997

## Recommendations

We make recommendations below aimed at improving human rights situation of Ahmadis in Pakistan. All these are in accord with the spirit of the international covenants to which Pakistan is signatory, the country's Constitution, its major laws and declared policies, excluding those discriminatory against Ahmadis. What is do-able is for the government to decide, as it depends upon its will and commitment to good governance; however, we mention these below in the order of their perceptible feasibility.

- Direct the police and the administration to withdraw support and co-operation to the mulla in the implementation of anti-Ahmadi laws. Culture of impunity over attacks on Ahmadis' human rights and freedom of faith should end.
- The ban on publication of Ahmadiyya translations of the Holy Quran should be lifted.
- Ban on the Ahmadiyya daily and monthly periodicals should be lifted.
- The ban imposed on publication of books written by the Founder of Ahmadiyyat should be lifted.
- Ahmadiyya mosque in Dulmial, locked by authorities in District Chakwal, should be unlocked and made available for worship.
- Effectively stop anti-Ahmadiyya sectarian hate propaganda, as required by the National Action Plan.
- Return the nationalized Ahmadiyya schools and colleges, in accordance with the Pakistan government's policy in this regard.
- Release all Ahmadis in prison on faith-related accusations.
- Withdraw all charges in police cases based on considerations of belief or religion.
- Anti-terror laws should not be used against Ahmadis, and their literature should not be classified as hate literature for this purpose.
- The name of Chenab Nagar town should be changed back to Rabwah.
- Invest in state education to foster a more inclusive and cohesive society where the state is neutral.
- UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief and EU Envoy on religious freedom to review Human Rights and Religion or Belief situation of Ahmadis in the country.
- Abolish the separate electoral list of Ahmadis and ensure that all citizens have an equal right to vote and participate as candidates. Affidavits concerning a citizen's faith should be abolished.
- Ahmadi women, youth and elders annual concourses (*Ijtema*) should be permitted as for other groups and organizations in the country.
- Ahmadiyya community should be permitted to hold its traditional annual convention.
- Anti-Ahmadi laws derived from Ordinance XX should be repealed.
- Repeal the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Constitution.
- Repeal the blasphemy laws; these have no basis in the Quran or Sunnah.

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#### 1. Special Reports

Some incidents or a group of incidents deserve to be reported in greater detail to convey their true import. These also call for some comment. A few of such cases are selected each year to be placed in this chapter. Their special description helps in better and deeper understanding of what goes on in the field of persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan. This year there were numerous such cases that deserve a place in this chapter, but we have restricted the number to three. These are titled:

- 1A. A new Act to deny 'forever' the right of vote to Ahmadis in democratic Pakistan
- 1B. Anti-Ahmadiyya conference in Ahmadiyya headquarters town, Rabwah
- 1C. A portentous and telltale 'All Parties' conference

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# 1A. A new Act to deny *'forever'* the right of vote to Ahmadis in democratic Pakistan

An unusual thing happened this year. The Pakistani state corrected a major wrong done to Ahmadis – after 32 years. It facilitated them right of vote as citizens – only to withdraw it later at one howl of the mulla.

Also, life for Ahmadis is made demanding and taxing generally all the year round in Pakistan, but there are occasions when Ahmadis are spotlighted with hateful and sinister propaganda, and they do not know which way the events would turn and what would happen by next week. Last quarter of this year was one such occasion.

A revised Election Bill was under preparation by a parliamentary committee since July 2014. It passed through the sieve of the National Assembly and the Senate and the President signed it into law on October 2, 2017.

The Election Act 2017, for the purpose of this story, carried three provisions, *inter alia*:

- 1. It permitted a legally 'disqualified person' to become president of his party.
- 2. A candidate filing papers for nomination to contest general elections was now required to 'declare' his faith in the End of Prophethood (KN) rather than 'solemnly swear' the same. (Ahmadis had neither asked for this change, nor were they informed about it in advance. The text of the affidavit remained unchanged.)
- 3. From now onward voting lists were to be prepared from NADRA records for persons over the age of 18. Rules 7B and 7C promulgated by General Musharraf's executive order whereby separate voting lists for Ahmadis, and End of Prophethood certificate and denial of Ahmadiyyat were required from every voter who claimed to be Muslim, were done away with. (Thus Ahmadis could now form a part of the 'joint electorate', and be eligible for voting.)

Ahmadis were happy to join the political mainstream of the nation, even if partly. This was a major change. It lasted 5 days.

Events of October 2 and thereafter expose the insidious, wily and dangerous nature of politics and media in present day Pakistan.

Islamist political parties, the rabidly anti-Nawaz Sharif (NS) political opposition and the mullas of all hues raised hell over the change of wording from 'I solemnly swear' to 'I declare' in the End of Prophethood affidavit for the election candidates. Most of them took the false position that the wording of the text of the affidavit had been changed. Some conveyed as if the Ahmadis have again been admitted in Islam, and the constitutional amendment had been made void. It was a propaganda blitz, against the ruling party, but also against the Ahmadis. Within two days, important persons of the PML-N including Mr. Nawaz Sharif conceded to the protest and promised to restore the two words of the affidavit. He ordered restoration of the KN declaration and all other provisions concerning End of Prophethood (*read* Ahmadis) on October 3, less than two days after the President put his signatures on the passed Act.

The changes were approved by the National Assembly, and later by the Senate. Hardly anybody mentioned that not only the two words of 'solemnly swear' had been restored, but the right of Ahmadis to be part of the 'Joint Electorate' had been forfeited – which was the main but undeclared aim of the agitation.

However, the KN pot that was taken to the boiling point kept on boiling even after NS had ordered compliance with the demand of the bigots, partly because the clause concerning the 'disqualified person' remained put, and consequently Mr. Sharif was installed as president of his party without delay. Anyway, the hype generated by this KN issue in print and electronic media did further damage to the public perception of the Ahmadiyya community. Ahmadis were given no space in the print media and no time on TV channels to air their views.

In response to the bursting of the protest, the Speaker of the Assembly issued a statement that change of the two words was only a clerical error and would be soon rectified. The opposition, however, discarded this explanation. Mian Nawaz Sharif promised to take action against the person who was responsible for the error; he even appointed a high-level committee of PML-N stalwarts to investigate and assign responsibility. Nevertheless, anti-PML-N open-air meetings and rallies continued. All Parties Conferences were scheduled by even second grade groups; protests were programmed, well into November.

The PML-N high command apparently took note that their political opponents were cashing on the KN and 'Qadiani' issues, so why not turn the tables and take the lead on these issues. They decided to launch their own unguided missile, Captain ® M. Safdar, the son-in-law of the former PM.

Capt. (R) Safdar mounted a vociferous attack against the Ahmadi community, on a point of order in the National Assembly, describing them as 'threat to the country' and demanded that its members be banned from induction into the government and military services, etc.

The prestigious daily Dawn commented on Safdar's tirade, in its issue of 12 October:

"It was a diatribe both repugnant, not only in what was said but also in terms of the wider ramifications.

"Not only that, Capt. Safdar's tirade – one that any violent extremist would be proud of – clearly violates the country's hate speech laws as well as the objectives of the National Action Plan. The

concept of inclusivity that our leadership is supposedly promoting as an antidote to intolerance in society brooks no exceptions."

Deplorably, when Safdar was haranguing the Assembly with hate speech, the presiding Speaker (Mr. Murtaza J. Abbasi) did not censure him nor even interrupted him.

In his speech Safdar accused the Ahmadis: "In their false religion, Jihad has no place."

Capt. Safdar's performance was so grotesque and depraved that it met wide-spread condemnation. The opposition, of course, would not pat him on the back. The English press and intellectuals condemned him openly. His performance and the civil society response to it was of character that even the PML-N did not support him outside the assembly.

Y.L. Hamdani, a leading Pakistani intellectual tweeted on 17 October: "The world community must be shocking pot when the son in law of the most powerful politician in Pakistan is calling for genocide."

**Sunni Tahrik and Tahrik Labbaik Ya Rasul–Ullah (TLY).** These politico-religious parties comprise primarily of Barelvi members. Their leaders have decided that agitating the Ahmadiyya issue and the KN controversy is a short cut to gain common man's sympathy and vote. In the recent past they have attempted to outdo others in holding anti-Ahmadi rallies and conferences. Mullas Ashraf Jalali, Khadim Hussain Rizvi, Afzal Qadri, Pir Hamid ud Din Sialwi etc. are the leading Barelvis. They co-operate on political issues, when it suits them.

The Labbaik group assessed the KN 'declaration' issue as one whereby they could claim more than their share of the political cake. They not only joined the on-going agitation, they declared to undertake a long march from Lahore to the federal capital on 6 November. This was a major undertaking to cause concern to the administration – and to Ahmadis, of course.

The Sunni Tahrik was not to be left behind; they took out a rally at short notice and headed for Islamabad on October 25. Senior leaders of the Labbaik also accompanied them. The administration had to take immediate steps to block the protesters' entry to Islamabad. This caused great inconvenience to the inter-city/province traffic and to the twin-city local commuters, because of road blocks and traffic jams. The administration had to act tough with unwelcome visitors and arrested a large number of them.

This issue was agitated further and reached its climax at the end of November.

Although the government had already accepted the main demand of the mullas, the TLY sit-in (*Dharna*) demonstrators at the strategic Faizabad crossing, just outside Islamabad, upgraded their demands to the following:

- 1. Those parliamentarians who conspired against the belief in End of Prophethood should be fired forthwith and punished as per Constitution.
- 2. Rana Sanaullah should be fired and tried for rebellion against the Constitution.
- 3. Cursed Aasia (the Christian woman) should be hanged as per court verdict.
- 4. A Sunni ulama board should be established to control Qadianis' mischiefs in Pakistan, and the ban on Ahmadis' practice of Islamic worship etc. should be made effective.
- 5. The persecuted Rohingya Muslims should be supported and diplomatic relations with Myanmar should be severed.
- 6. Restrictions imposed on all-round loud-speakers in mosques should be lifted. (sic)

The demonstrators settled down at the interchange and their leaders undertook planning and implementing their strategy of a wider and longer unrest and a threat to law and order.

The TLY issued a call for a major strike and protest in Lahore on November 3. It was widely publicized, and Friday sermons were delivered on the theme of 'Honour of the Prophet'. Ahmadis had to take special measures that day to protect their places of worship and the worshipers. The government found it convenient to come to the following agreement with TLY mullas:

- The issue of changes to the wording of the affidavit in the new Act will be investigated and the findings made public within 20 days. Those found guilty of any conspiracy will be punished under law. The ulama will be taken in confidence by the government over the enquiry and its findings.
- 2. The criminal Aasia found guilty of blasphemy will be punished as per law. All rumors concerning sending her abroad are baseless. It is not even being considered.
- 3. The government will form an effective advisory national council comprising distinguished ulama to implement constitutional provisions regarding the deniers of Khatme Nabuwwat (KN), their conspiracies and their violations of law specific to them *(read Ahmadis)*.
- 4. The government of Pakistan will continue its diplomatic, political and moral support to Rohingya Muslims. It is pursuing the scheme of their rehabilitation, in league with Turkey. The government will make its plan public and play an effective role.
- 5. Rana Sanaullah, the provincial law minister will further explain his position regarding some video clips, in the presence of well-known Ahle Sunnat ulama.
- 6. The federal government will urge the Punjab government to follow the same policy as other provinces and the capital regarding sound-amplifiers in mosques, and will play its role to lift restrictions on the number of loud-speakers in mosques in the province. (sic)

The agreement was signed by a federal minister and other high officials as also by four leaders of TLY and the ST.

As a result, the *Dharna* came to an end – but only temporarily. Another long march, led by Maulvi Khadim Hussain Rizvi made a sortie from Data Darbar in Lahore to Islamabad on November 6, 2017. All these days, Ahmadis were bad-mouthed in speeches, rallies, meetings, social media, print and electronic media, etc. Their situation was potentially precarious.

The sit-in at Faizabad was strengthened and, with no regard to the agreements already made, the traffic was blocked by the protestors. This caused great inconvenience to the public, including school children, patients heading for hospitals, women going to their jobs and daily wage earners. The miscreants manhandled anybody who resisted their directions. Law-enforcing personnel did not interfere; perhaps they were directed to stay clear.

The protest leaders used extremely foul language against the ruling elite and those who did not approve of their conduct. They even issued threats to federal ministers in public addresses and sermons. Pir Afzal Qadri unabashedly said, "They (the rulers) should be very careful because our supporters can harm their children." *The daily Dawn, November 11, 2017* 

At this stage the Islamabad High Court intervened as it had been approached by a mulla Allah Wasaya of KN, by the TLY, as also by a few other individual citizens. Judge Shaukat Siddiqui took the liberty of venting his sentiments and opinions. He was angry over

the inconvenience caused to the public by the protestors, and 'advised' the protesters to end the sit-in. He was sympathetic to the anti-Ahmadi demands, and ordered cancellation of all the amendments in sections relevant to Khatme Nabuwwat in the Election Act 2017. Mulla Allah Wasaya also demanded that the government setup a database of employees belonging to the Ahmadi faith; in response to this proposal, the judge told the federal government to submit a reply within 14 days.

The mullas were happy over the judge's orders that were to the disadvantage of Ahmadis, but decided to disobey his 'advice' on lifting the *Dharna*.

In the face of the slothful government, mullas imposed a massive gridlock that choked the twin cities (*The Nation; November 10*). In Sialkot, religious zealots attacked a vehicle in which they mistakenly thought federal minister Zahid Hamid was riding.

In any case, the government had the amendments, demanded by the mulla, passed in the National Assembly and then in the Senate on November 17, 2017. Zahid Hamid, the law minister tabled the amendment bill in the Senate session which was presided by, otherwise outspoken, Raza Rabbani. Hamid claimed mutual consensus. He said that the status of Qadianis would remain non-Muslim. He added that if a person gets himself or herself enrolled as Muslim in the voters' list, any other person could challenge this before the revising authority where he or she would be required to sign the declaration of the finality of prophethood. Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, the Interior Minister stated that the law on KN for voters had been further 'strengthened' than before, and as an Act it will remain operative till the doomsday (*Qiyamat*). He asserted: "The country, its parliament, government and armed forces were there to safeguard the finality of prophethood". His pleas and entreaties proved wasteful, as the sit-in was not lifted by the mulla.

On November 24, the Punjab Assembly passed a resolution to make the 'End of Prophethood' a part of school syllabus and a compulsory subject for Muslim students. Belatedly, Lahore Bar Association announced a strike on November 25 and demanded resignation of the Federal law minister. 'Those guilty of these disgusting crimes (*ghanowney*) should be held accountable', they said.

At this stage Allama Rizvi, a TLY leader stepped-up his demand further: "Now, not one minister, but the entire cabinet will have to leave."

As a result of the mounting pressure from the public, the high judiciary, the civil society and the political gains made by the mulla and the opposition, the government decided to order the police on Nov 25 to lift the sit-in. Simultaneously, the Interior Ministry placed huge ads in newspapers stating the government's position on the issue and restating that the belief in KN was an integral part of 200 million Pakistani Muslims and the parliament was its guardian.

The police action was resisted by the demonstrators. They set fire to 10 police vehicles and occupied many more thorough-fares. The police arrested more than 150 persons. Reportedly 7 persons died; some place the count higher. Emergency was declared in twincities' hospitals. The resistance spread to some other cities and towns in the Punjab and to Karachi and Peshawar. At the end of the day, the Faizabad site was still occupied by the mullas of TLY. Many policemen were injured. Some reports allege strange developments. Having failed to lift the sit-in, the government called out the army.

The army responded with the army chief'scall to the prime minister with recommendation that 'the dispute be solved peacefully, as violence was not in national interest'.

The army then intervened and acted as the arbitrator between the two parties, the TLY and the government of Pakistan.

As a result, an agreement was agreed upon and signed by the parties. Major General Faiz Hamid signed as 'Through' (*Bawasatat*). The demands of protestors were met with the resignation of Law Minister Zahid Hamid. TLY undertook not to issue an edict (*fatwa*) against him. The government agreed to:

- Make public the Enquiry Report of Raja Zafar ul Haq committee within 30 days and take action against those held responsible.
- All the arrested protestors would be released and police cases withdrawn against them.
- An Enquiry Board will be formed in consultation with TLY to look into the police action of November 25, and take action against those held responsible.
- The government will pay up for all damages to public and private property during the Dharna.
- Whatever had been agreed by the Punjab Government (earlier) will be implemented in letter and spirit.
- This agreement has been arrived at through special efforts of COAS General Bajwa and his team. Thanks to them for saving the nation from a catastrophe.

The federal government made this deal with mulla Khadim Hussain Rizvi (of TYL) who is on record to have declared that the day Islam prevailed in the country, there shall be only one option for Ahmadis: "Recite the Kalima or have your necks chopped.(Jis din Islam aa gia, Mirzaian de barey wich ik hee faisala hona ai: Kalima parho, ya gardan katwao.)"www. Fb.com/rizvimedia92/...

It was reported through <a href="https://www.dawn.com/news/1373197">https://www.dawn.com/news/1373197</a> that according to Rizvi (of TLY), in addition to the terms mentioned in the document, the following demands of TLY were also accepted by the government, *inter alia*:

- 1. No difficulty will be faced in registering cases under clause 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code (the blasphemy law).
- 2. No leniency will be given to those convicted by courts of blasphemy.
- 3. The foreign and interior ministers will take steps for the release of Dr Aafia Siddiqui after taking her mother and sister in confidence.
- 4. Two representatives of Tahrik-i-Labbaik will be included in the textbook board assigned to decide changes.
- 5. Every year, November 25 will be observed as "Martyrs of Prophet's honour day".

There has been no official confirmation or denial of agreeing to these demands from the government's side.

Consequently the 22-day sit-in at Faizabad Interchange was lifted. Demonstrators in most other cities and towns dispersed and life returned to normal within a day or two, except in Lahore where a sit-in continued at the Mall Road, the main thorough-fare.

The daily Dawn made the following editorial comment in its issue of November 28, 2017 (extract):

#### Capitulation

IT is surrender so abject that the mind is numb and the heart sinks.

The deal negotiated between the state, both civilian and military facets of it, and the Faizabad protesters is a devastating blow to the legitimacy and moral standing of the government and all state institutions.

In one brief page and six gut-wrenching points, the state of Pakistan has surrendered its authority to a mob that threatened to engulf the country in flames. The federal law minister has been sacked – in return for a promise by the protesters to not issue a fatwa against him....

Subsequent to the agreement, there was a break in the leadership of the *Dharna*. The break-away mullas accused the others of selling the lives of the *Dharna* martyrs for only 215 million rupees. (*The daily Awaz, Lahore; November 30, 2017*)

Following is also relevant to this *Dharna*:

- ➤ The Supreme Court observed that activities of *Dharna* activists were opposed to Ouranic teachings.
- ➤ Islamabad High Court declares Faizabad sit-in a terrorist act.

The daily Dawn; November 25, 2017

- Lahore High Court rejected a plea to order registration of police case against Captain ® Safdar, on November 19, 2017.
- ➤ Supreme Court reminded the government on November 23 of the option of tough measures.
- ➤ "I shall not let slip away those who amended the Khatme Nabuwwat law", said Justice Siddiqui of IHC.

The daily Islam; November 25, 2017

- ➤ The Interior Ministry got published full page ads on sit-in in newspapers on November 25, 2017.
- ➤ We cannot give license of shooting straight: Justice Siddiqui of IHC

The daily Express; November 25, 2017

➤ On November 21 the Interior Ministry implored the protestors to lift*Dharna*, by quoting Quran and Hadith, as also the orders of Islamabad High Court.

A brief resume of the performance of major social actors in this episode would be appropriate.

**Print media**. Vernacular print media mostly behaved very badly in support of the anti-Ahmadi campaign, as always. Approximately 1500 news items etc. were published; however, it did not print even once an Ahmadi's comment. A number of big names wrote columns to explain why the wording 'I swear solemnly' instead of 'I declare' are absolutely vital for the health of Islam and Pakistan. Most of these bigots did not have the courage or honesty to even hint that their real aim was to deny Ahmadis their right of vote.

**Electronic media**. TV channels availed the occasion to play up the controversy. Those who normally do not vilify Ahmadis, but are committed to anti-PML-N policy, spoke against the revision of the past electoral rules and supported the status-quo that deprives Ahmadis of their right of vote. The official channel PTV shared the shame of broadcasting the entire highly objectionable speech of Captain Safdar in the assembly, knowing that it was violation of the official National Action Plan.In these two months, if the electronic media spent almost

1000 hours over the mulla's demands, it did not spare 10 minutes for Ahmadis to state their view.

**Social media**. Social media provided a convenient outlet for discussion and exchange of views. A more balanced and fairer picture emerged from the inputs to this media. One Farnood Alam wrote an excellent article in Urdu on website Humsub.com.pk.

**Politics.** Pakistan politics were exposed fully during these weeks. The fact that it lacks any principles came out repeatedly. None, not one party, nor any leader came out clean or with a bold scheme in the interest of the country.

The person who behaved worst was Sheikh Rashid Ahmad of Rawalpindi, chief of his petty Awami Muslim League, a colleague of Imran's PTI and a sworn opponent of the PML-N's Mian brothers. He vigorously castigates his political rivals on moral grounds. However on the KN issue, he falsely took the position that the PML-N revision had done away with Khatme Nabuwwat.

The Jamaat Islami, Sunni Ittehad Council, Milli Yakjehti Council (JUP), JUI-F, joined the propaganda riot as spoilers.

Raja Zafar ul Haq (PML-N), Maulana Fazlur Rahman (JUI), Shah Mahmud Qureshi (PTI), Mir Zafrulla Jamali (PML-N), Ch. Pervaiz Ilahi (PML-Q), etc. also added fuel to fire.

When the government was harassed greatly over the words 'I declare', Rana Sanaullah, Law Minister in the Punjab decided to speak some truth in a TV interview. He said, "(Some of) Our Ulama do not consider them (Ahmadis) non-Muslims. If you go in some detail, they believe and practice the same as our beliefs, our prayers, fasting; they practice all this. They build mosques and make the (same) call to prayers...."

This stark truth was totally unacceptable to all those leaders of bigotry. They unleashed a storm against the Rana. Some included him in the list of *kafirs* over his statement. Others demanded his removal. He was guilty of only speaking some truth.

**The Government.** The leading figures among rulers said little but were the main actors behind the stage of this ghastly drama. They could not help saying something about KN after all.Mr. Shahbaz Sharif insisted: "We have unshakable faith in Khatme Nabuwwat. I've always taken active steps to protect the laws on KN". He also claimed: "For four years, we became dirt in dirt, to serve the people."

The federal government considered and implemented a decision to even advertise in the press its faith and commitment to KN. A large sum of money was thus spent to publish quarter-page color ads in newspapers, asserting: "Democratic government is determined that this fundamental belief of Muslims will never come to any harm. ...

"Also, this is the call of the honour of the Prophet." Seal. Interior Ministry, Govt of Pakistan

**General.** None of the players of this fateful game ever admitted in plain language that it was all about denying Ahmadi citizens their right of vote. They covered their demands in technical terms of '7B', '7C', 'solemnly swear', 'declare', 'believe', etc.

At no stage, nobody mentioned that in fact Ahmadis also believe in the Khatme Nabuwwat, except when the embattled Interior Minister did drop a hint to that effect. The sly mullas did not take the risk of even blaming him, as that would have exposed their deceit.

Last but not least, the Interior Minister undertook in clause 6 that the Punjab Government would implement all that was agreed earlier between the two parties. Punjab government is known for its exceptional harshness in maltreating Ahmadis in the province,

on behest of its Ulama Board. Tightening the screw further could result, in the opinion of the savant Y.L. Hamdani: "One fears for the safety and well-being of members of this (Ahmadiyya) community who now live in the shadow and threat of violence and even genocide in the country." *Daily Times; November 27, 2017* 

In our opinion, the rulers unnecessarily took the devious path of disowning the elimination of the KN rules in the Election Act. They should have said plainly that in order to have genuine Joint Electorate they did away with a dictator's unsupportable rules 7B and 7C, and have thus admitted Ahmadis in mainstream politics, as like everyone else they are also citizens of democratic Pakistan. Such bold and straightforward approach would surely have given the PML-N high moral ground to easily demolish the baseless stand of mullas. Honesty is the best policy, say the sage.

It would be appropriate to place on record here a list of persons and organizations that, in our opinion, *inter alia* played a very negative role and those who played a positive role during this potentially catastrophic event. Our criterion for this assessment is: 'by placing national interest above self-interest'.

#### **Negative role**

Political parties: JI, JUI (F), JUP, PML-Q,PTI, PML-N, PAT

Newspapers: 92 News, Khabrain, Nawa-i-Waqt, Daily Express, Ausaf

Individuals: Ch. Shujaat Hussain, Sh. Rashid Ahmad, Mufti Muneeb, Tahir Ashrafi, Mubashir Luqman, Sabir Shakir, Sami Ibrahim, Shahid Masood, Justice ® Nazir Ahmad Ghazi, Ahmad Jamal Nizami, Orya Maqbul Jan, Bushra Rahman, Umar Abbasi of PAT, Dr Danish, Major ® Zaheer, Arif Bhatti, Wadood Qureshi, Asif Mehmud, Ausaf Sheikh, Mohiuddin, Yusuf Siraj, Umar Farooq, and also Justice ® Iftikhar Chaudhary, Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan, Dr. Safdar Mahmood, Hamid Mir, Haroon ul Rasheed, Dr. Ehsan Bari, Irshad Ahmad Arif

TV Channels: 92 News, 24 News

Groups: Punjab Assembly, Lahore Bar Association, Mashaikh Convention

(Note: Committed anti-Ahmadi parties and individuals are not included in the above list.)

#### **Positive role**

Individuals: Nusrat Javed, Zubaida Mustafa, Zaman Khan, Kamila Hayat, M. Yunus, Wusatulla Khan, Rasul Bakhsh Rais, Kamran Yusuf, Farnood Alam, Babar Sattar, Masroor Ahmad, Shamshad Mangat, Zahid Hussain, Afrasyab Khattak, Y.L. Hamdani, Imtiaz Alam Newspapers: The Express Tribune, Dawn, The Nation, Daily Times, The News International

Although the Islamabad sit-in (*Dharna*) ended on November 27, this was not the end of the agitation that was undertaken in the name of Khatme Nabuwwat (KN).

There was a split in the TLY leadership and ranks, and a group led by mulla Ashraf Jalali assembled a *Dharna* in Lahore where the protestors occupied a central spot on the Mall Road and seriously disturbed the traffic for a few days. The traffic jam in that part was

reported as very bad. On December 2, an agreement was reached between the Punjab government and the *Dharna* leadership.

It was agreed, *inter alia*, that Muttahida Ulama Board will review the school syllabus in the Punjab with special reference to religious topics (*Deeni sha'air*). Ashraf Jalali claimed that the government had agreed to appoint Mufti Abid Jalali on the Ulama Board, and that a committee would be formed regarding resignation of Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah.

Rana Sanaullah took a brave stand and decided not to present himself before the clerics. Pir Sialwi is now on the road agitating against the Rana and the PML-N (and Ahmadis, of course) taking outprocessions and addressing rallies.

During these days, a number of senior but scared politicians of PML-N issued public statements about their faith in Islam, KN, etc.

As for the *Dharna* in the name of KN, some people have come forth with the truth. Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, the interior minister stated that the sit-in leaders were not interested in the end of prophethood but end of the government. Maulvi Fazl ur Rehman (JUI-F) observed, "The real issue was Nawaz Sharif, but the End of Prophethood was exploited." Islamabad High Court Judge, Shaukat Siddiqui admonished the authorities over surrender to the protesters. Ms. Gul Bokhari wrote an op-ed in the daily The Nation, stating openly that the sit-in was against the new Act that removed the obstacles in the way of Ahmadis to exercise their voting right. She was perhaps the only one who said so unambiguously.

Commandeering the End of Prophethood for political profit gained currency, and many went for it. Maulvi Tahir Ashrafi of Pakistan Ulama Council advised people to vote for the KN in next elections. Azad Kashmir Assembly passed a resolution that Protection of KN and Rejection of Qadianiat will be added to the AJK Interim Constitution Act, 1974. The Federal Ministry of Religious Affairs announced that the year 2018 will be celebrated as one for Awareness of End of Prophethood.

Ahmadis are worried. They think that while the contending parties could well renege on various clauses of their 'agreements', all will happily comply with those that will further curb the human rights and freedom of religion of Ahmadis.

Ahmadiyya centre has received information from various locations that the successful *Dharna* and the consequential social environment has worsened communal situation for Ahmadis. Hate and social boycott have picked up in society. This encouraged a right-wing daily *Islam* to print an article, titled: Will the 'drama' be played again? It referred to the blood-soaked anti-Ahmadiyya riots in 1953 in the Punjab.

While commenting on the effect and consequences of *Dharna*, the well-known intellectual Aisha Siddiqa wrote: "Now, it does not matter anymore if Sharia is formally applied or not. Between Khadim Rizvi (of TLY) and Orya Maqbul Jan (an ultra-right intellectual) the state is theirs to claim."

Looking simultaneously across the border at the hype in cow-devotion, a JUI-F senator remarked: "World War III be fought in the Sub-continent." (*The News, December 6, 2017*). God forbid!

(Note: For more details please see our Monthly Reports for the months of October, November and December 2017.)

#### 1B. Anti-Ahmadiyya conference in Ahmadiyya headquarters town, Rabwah

*September 7, 2017:* Mullas hold rallies and conferences all over Pakistan on September 7 to commemorate the anti-Ahmadiyya 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the Constitution. This amendment was introduced by the Z.A. Bhutto government of PPP in 1974, through which Ahmadis were declared not-Muslims. This amendment opened the flood gate of persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan.

Mullas have been holding special Khatme Nabuwwat (end of prophethood) conferences annually for the last 30 years in Rabwah – the centre of the Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan, Ahmadis here form more than 95% of the population. Mullas come from all over to hurl abuses against the residents of the town and the persons they respect. Every year authorities allow and facilitate this conference in Rabwah despite request from Ahmadiyya headquarters to disallow this provocative conference in their home-town. On the other hand when Ahmadis request permission to hold their traditional conference in their own centre, the authorities do not even acknowledge the receipt of the application.

This year the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Khatme Nabuwwat (KN) conference was held on September 7, 2017by the International Khatme Nabuwwat Movement (IKNM). We report its proceeding below in some useful detail along with essential comments which would be helpful to a keen analyst to understand the nature of such rallies that are claimed by their organizers to be perfectly peaceful and lawful, and even blissful spiritually. There was no surprise this year; as expected the mullas indulged in profuse slander, lies, deceit, propagation of hate and violence and made demands that blatantly violated internationally accepted, including Pakistan, norms and statutes of human rights and religious freedom. This report is primarily based on press reports which were reproduced from the press-releases of the media section of the conference management. While most of the Urdu dailies provided plenty of space to these reports, we have prepared this narrative primarily from the stories given in the daily Jang, Lahore of September 8 and 9, 2017.

This conference was announced well in advance in the press, and the public had been urged by some leading mullas to attend in large numbers. The leadership of the Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme Nabuwwat placed an ad in the daily Jang of September 7, 2017 urging the ulama and prayer-leaders to address the countrymen that day to apprise them 'of the importance and defense of the KN (End of Prophethood) and Qadianis' belief system and their 'apostate activities.' Mulla Abdur Rauf Makki (from Makka, Saudi Arabia) issued a statement that "this conference will prove to be a huge exposition of Ummah's unity and will be the last nail in the coffin of Qadianiat." (*The daily Ausaf; September 7, 2017*)

The authorities not only permitted holding this sectarian conference, they provided all the essential support. The organizers proudly had it reported in the press that all arrangements were perfect and rescue squad, ambulance service, bomb disposal squad, security personnel etc numbering over 950 were all available. *They said: In view of delicate security situation in the country, fool-proof security and stringent safety measures had been adopted.* One may ask the organizers and the authorities – why at all hold this vain and futile anti-Ahmadi conference in an Ahmadi-populated town?

At the conference, the speakers said little on the merit and excellence of the ideology of the Khatme Nabuwwat; instead they indulged in many issues and facets that violated the sanctity of the fair theme. We reproduce below samples and extracts, under specific topics.

International politics. The speakers said, "It was not up to us but for the world to 'do more'. International powers have failed; they should not dump the garbage of their failures, humiliation and disgrace on Pakistan. Pakistan is a great country; it is proud to possess nuclear capability. We'll not be cowed by American threats. No Pakistani child will hesitate to sacrifice his life for the protection of the dear country." Sheikh Maulana Abdul Rauf Makki (of Makka Mukarrama) the deputy Amir of International Khatme Nabuwwat Movement said, "Qadianis are the tools of international Evil and Zionist powers; they are working to help the West to round off the Zionist agenda. We'll never let this Qadiani and Zionist agenda flourish; Qadianis are busy in their evil attempts to break up the country." Maulana Qari Shabbir A Usmani, another deputy Amir of the IKNM said, "... We strongly condemn the anti-Pakistan statement of the American president and tell him that we'll turn Pakistan into Americans' graveyard...." A doltish speaker recommended war against India.

The speakers told the participants, "Qadianis' political bond with Israel and India is a huge conspiracy against Pakistan and the Islamic world." *The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; September* 8, 2017

**Promotion of violence.** The mullas were discrete but clear in propagating violence. For instance, Zahid Qasimi, a mulla on government pay roll said, "7 September is a day of rejoicing for Muslims. We'll rather get slaughtered and die than permit any tampering with the finality of prophethood of our master. We shall continue to fight till our last breath on all fronts to safeguard the Khatme Nabuwwat."

Maulana Saleem Muaviya of Gilgit Baltistan said, "It is duty of us all to crush the head of Qadianiat. We must continue to fight for the honour of the Prophet, till the last drop of our blood."

**Lies and slander.** Maulana Sufi Akram said, "It is the duty of the government of Pakistan to fire all Qadianis who have penetrated Pakistan's atomic program and remain busy in conspiracies to deprive Pakistan of its nuclear capability."

Maulana Saad Kamran said, "Qadianis in official lobbies and key posts are deliberately occupied in bankrupting the dear country socially, religiously and geographically by looting the national treasury."

Allama Shah Nawaz Farooqi, the secretary general of Pakistan Ulama Council said, "Qadianis are at the back of terrorism in the country and the sectarian controversies."

Maulana Rafiq Wajhwi said, "The mischief (*fitna*) of Qadianism was planted by the British; it is a Jewish political auxiliary organization. We'll continue to confront them. Qadianis have always taken to aggression, violence and violation of the constitution."

M. Arshad Hijazi said, "Qadianiat is bent upon cutting the roots of Islam and Pakistan."

And still another: "The participants of the conference shed tears when told the stories of Qadianis' atrocities on *Mujahideen* of Khatme Nabuwwat."

Also: "In fact it is the Jews who are responsible for all the atrocities against Rohingyas."

And to top it all: "Rabwah is the headquarters of all terrorism."

**Deceit.** Maulana Yusuf Ahrar said, "Mirzais (Ahmadis) are now converting to Islam because Mirzaiat is not a religion or faith, it was only a political mischief created by the British."

Qazi Saeedi said, "No sensible Muslim is ignorant of the Qadiani conspiracies and opposition against Islam and Muslims."

Qari Shabbir Usmani said, "Thestature of Pakistan is that of a *Masjid* (mosque); its defence is a part of our faith."

A mulla stated that this conference was committed to fight extremism.

**Promotion of hate.**Maulana Farooqi said, "Jews and Hindus are backing up Qadianis who are a great cancer which must be destroyed."

Javed Kasuri of Jamaat Islami said, "The traitors to Pakistan deserve no relief. National security demands that all activists busy in conspiracies against Pakistan, particularly the Qadiani gang should be neutralized."

Maulana Safdar of Pakistan Ulama Council said, "Qadianis, by not accepting their constitutional status, are guilty of rebellion. They should be booked for violating the constitution and being traitors."

**Threats.**The mullas not satisfied with their to-date achievements against Ahmadis, made known their future aims and ambitions. Qari Usmani said, "If Muslims continue to act in union, the day is not far when Qadianiat and its supporters will disappear and lose even their trace in this tsunami (of our onslaught)."

It is sardonic that while all this was being preached, the same mullas shamelessly introduced a resolution: "This gathering condemns in strongest terms the atrocities being committed against Muslims in Burma, Palestine, Kashmir and Syria. Human rights organizations should take due notice of these and have these stopped."

At the end of the last session of the conference, numerous resolutions were moved and passed. Some of these are translated below, in abridged form. These are interesting in their blatancy in the face of universally accepted human rights norms:

- A ban should be imposed on Qadianis' activities. They should be fired from all key posts.
- Computerized I.D. cards should mention the holder's religion, or Muslims' cards should be of different colors to ensure religious distinction to meet legal and constitutional imperatives.
- Sharia punishment for apostasy should be imposed as recommended by the CII (death).
- Qadiani TV channel should be banned.
- Declaration (official permission to publish) of Qadiani periodicals should be withdrawn.
- The dogma of End of Prophethood should be included in school syllabi.

- Qadiani endowment (*auqaf*) should be nationalized.
- We condemn exclusion of Jihad, Seerat and other Islamic themes from school syllabi.
- Quranic inscriptions in Qadiani places of worship should be 'protected'.

The mullas appear to be conscious of their extremism and violence-prone rhetoric, which violates the provisions of the National Action Plan that enjoys support of the army; therefore they have adopted the policy of verbal support to the Pakistan Army. Their press-release mentioned: "This gathering pays tribute to the patriots of Pakistan's armed forces who from 1965 till the Operations *Zarb Azab* and *Radd al Fasad* have sacrificed their lives for the defence and security of their country. It also pays tribute to Army chief General Qamar Bajwa for his brave challenge to anti-Pakistan forces... and assures him of its full support."

It is common knowledge that these mullas establish, manage and maintain the nurseries where the so-called *mujahideen* (*aka* terrorists) are trained to harm their own people, governments and armed forces, resulting in tens of thousands of deaths and casualties. The pretense, duplicity and slyness of the mulla are vast and consequently obvious.

The number of participants at the conference was pathetic – a few hundred. The management made no mention in their press release of the number of participants. The management quoted over 950 officials present to provide support; we do not know if this number is correct, but it will surely support the expenditure bill to be claimed in petrodollars. The management profusely thanked the DC and the DPO for the excellence of the official support made available.

Reprehensible role of the vernacular press. As stated above, only a few hundred participants took the trouble of coming over, or being brought over to Rabwah to listen to all this bigotry, slander and ill-will, but the Urdu press came up with their unworthy help by publishing the organizers' press releases in plenty of detail, and passed their hateful message to hundreds of thousands of their readers. What the mulla could not achieve on his own, the fifth pillar of the state made it possible, while the administration facilitated it. If the country and its people come to harm as a result of such campaigns and rallies, mullas should not be the only ones to deserve the blame.

It is noteworthy that the final session of the conference was presided over by "Fazilatu Sheikh Maulana Abdul Rauf Makki (Makka Mukarrama)". What was this mulla from Saudi Arabia doing here by the river-side of Chenab on September 7, 2017? Why was he accepted as the patron of this conglomerate of politically ambitious priests who promote hatred, sectarian violence, theological tyranny, fanaticism, extremist agenda and violation of human rights?

Parties and organizations who were invited or who participated were the following: Jamaat Islami, JUI (F), Pakistan Ulama Council, JUI (S), Wafaq ul Madaras, PML-(N), Minhaj ul Quran, Ahrar Islam, Pasban Khatme Nabuwwat, MTKN etc.

Mullas have imposed their 'right' to hold these conferences in memory of an action taken by the state over 40 years ago, though many of the political descendents of Z.A. Bhutto (PPP) now voice their regrets over it in private. Mullas held similar, sparsely attended conferences in Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad, Faisalabad, Hyderabad, Bahawalpur, Sargodha,

Rawalpindi, Multan, Sheikhupura, Jhang, Sukkur, Mirpur Khas, Rahim Yar Khan, Mandi Bahauddin, Sahiwal, Okara, Kasur, Toba Tek Singh, Muzaffarabad, Mirpur, Gujrat, Jaranwala, Chichawatni, Chiniot, Kamalia, etc. The press reported them all.

Although not many attended, but the vernacular gutter rags carried their message of hate far and wide without realizing that one terrorist is enough to kill a hundred innocent persons, and terrorists are gullible and halfwit youth who can easily turn into unguided missiles.

It deserves mention that a fortnight later, at the advent of the month of Muharram, the Punjab Government took extraordinary measure to ensure sectarian security. Half-page ads were placed in newspapers to educate people on security, giving them Emergency Control Room phone numbers and telling them to simply dial 15 at anytime, of day or night to report any unpleasant incidents. The same authorities facilitated the same religious bullies to hold anti-Ahmadi conference in Rabwah.

NO wonder, neutral observers blame Pak authorities of double standards and unsteady policies in controlling extremist elements.

#### 1C. A portentous and telltale 'All Parties' conference

Islamabad; February 1, 2017: The vernacular press reported at great length proceedings of an All Parties Namus Risalat (honour of the prophet)Conference held in Dreamland Hotel of Islamabad. The conference was organized by the anti-Ahmadiyya Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme Nabuwwat. However, the top invitees to the conference were primarily political clerics; a sprinkling from some political parties was also in the recipe.

Those who attended included Fazlur Rahman (JUI), Samiul Haq (JUI-S), Siraj ul Haq (JI), Zafarul Haq (PML-N), Fazlur Rehman Khalil (Ansar ul Ummah), Abul Khair Zubair (JUP), Kafil Bokhari (Ahrar Islam), Tariq Cheema (PML-Q), Ejaz ul Haq (ML-Zia) etc. Only mulla Allah Wasaya, a second line cleric of the KN, was present to represent the sponsors. Apparently the stage was handed over to politico-religious leadership to sell their ware in the name of Honour of the Prophet and the End of Prophethood. The 'church' and the 'state' came out, hand in hand, to exploit each other to the full. The proceedings reported in the press made that very clear.

Maulvi Fazl Ur Rahman of JUI-F was given the lead role and he read out 'the declaration'. In this he started off with telling the authorities not to meddle with the blasphemy law 295-C, but then quickly fired all the broadsides on Ahmadiyya targets. He demanded, *inter alia*:

- Qadiani (TV) channels should be banned for their anti-Islam and anti-Pakistan transmissions.
- The decision to change the name of the QA University's Centre for Physics to Dr Abdul Salam Oadiani should be withdrawn.
- Innocent accused Muslims of Dulmial (riot) should be released and action should be taken against officials who were partial against the wronged (*Mazloom*) Muslims.

Desist from returning to Qadianis the nationalized educational institutions.

The Conference, having made these demands, conveyed that these were not empty words to be soon forgotten, but will be pursued with further action if they were not implemented within deadline of one month. A 15-member committee was formed to plan and implement future course of action. The committee comprised leaders of the participating parties as members, while Maulana Fazal Ur Rehman would head the committee.



Raja Zafar ul Haq, a PMN-N leader seated next to JUI and JI leaders at the stage

Most of the participating leaders addressed the conference. What they said is noteworthy. Siraj ul Haq of Jamaat Islami stated: "Pakistan is the citadel of Islam. If the honour of the Prophet is not upheld here, we have no right to be alive." He stated that registration of blasphemy cases should be made easier; otherwise people tend take law in their hand. Protection of 'end of prophethood' should be a part of school syllabus. With reference to Hafiz Saeed, he said, "There is no police case against him nor is he under trial in any court. He has been targeted on the call of Modi and Trump. I would like to ask: If tomorrow Modi or Trump press on Pakistan, would the rulers close down Madrassa Akora Khattak, and thereafter shut down Mansura? We'll sacrifice our lives for the defense of Makka and Madina. Trump will have to remain within his limits."

Fazlur Rahman Khalil stated that the National Action Plan (NAP) was a conspiracy against religious parties and madrassahs.

Following opinions were aired in the conference and reported in the press (for instance the dailies *Ausaf* and *Islam* of February 2, 2017):

• Trump has come out openly against Muslims. There is need to unite against him.

- The government proceeds to hang Mumtaz Qadri overnight, but fails to implement court's verdict on Aasia Masih.
- Police cases should be registered against bloggers.
- The disbelievers (*Kafir*) have given the name 'terrorism' to Jihad.
- We may have our differences with Hafiz Saeed but the government's treatment of him is not appropriate. We are all one on religious issues.
- Qadianis have dug in abroad against Pakistan. They have never been deprived of basic rights here.
- An APC should be called on Chakwal (Ahmadiyya mosque) issue to raise voice in support of wronged Muslims.
- Foreign powers attempt to change (school) syllabi; we'll have to play our role.
- 'End of Prophethood' day should be celebrated every year officially.
- Religious and political parties should jointly resist international pressure.
- Religious parties should launch the Nizam Mustafa campaign.
- All religious parties should stand on one platform to contest the next election.
- Any effort to change the blasphemy law will result in violent chaos (*fasaad*).
- Qadianis are active against the country.
- The rulers avail of our reaction (to suit their interest).

Raja Zafarul Haq (President PML-N) represented his party in this conference of questionable merit. He took the liberty of speaking for the prime minister: "PM Nawaz Sharif is of the same opinion as the religious parties and the people on the issue of Qadianism and Honour of the Prophet. Qadianis were declared non-Muslims in 1974 but further legislation was delayed till 1984. If Qadianis think that I am responsible for that, I don't care. The Ulama no longer talk about Qadianis. The new generation should be informed of our beliefs. Organized efforts are under way against Muslims; these are supported by foreign powers. Regardless of our party, the honour of the Prophet is dearer (to us) than any temporal gain. Foreign powers try to change our school syllabi; we'll have to play our role…."

During the same week, Mr. Latif Cheema, Convener of the Joint KN Committee welcomed the statements of federal ministers Ishaq Dar (Finance) and Muhammad Yusuf (Religious Affairs) wherein they reconfirmed government stand that no change will be made to the blasphemy law.

At about the same time a group of leading mullas wrote a letter to the President on the Ahmadi issue and urged him to ensure 'Islamic identity of the Pakistani state and implementation of Islamic provisions of the Constitution and the law, and also to send them a reply stating his own opinion and the follow-up.' (*The daily Pakistan; February 6, 2017*)

As a follow-up of the February 1 conference, the Milli Yakjehti Council, that claims to be a federation of 25 religious and political parties decided to hold protest rallies on 10 and 17 February. This was to express their displeasure on the detention of Hafiz Saeed, and their demand for protection of Islamic laws. (*The daily Express; February 9, 2017*)

The daily Jinnah reported on February 3, that Sheikh Abdur Rahman, Imam Kaba (Saudi Arabia) received Saeed Inayatullah of End of Prophethood (Pakistan) and gave him good news that Seerat Chairs will be established in Makka and Medina whereby permanent arrangements will be made to arrange lectures on KN. Sheikh Rahman congratulated Saeed

Inayatullah over his elevation to Amir of International Khatme Nabuwwat Movement. This teaming up of the Saudi and Pakistani dignitaries, in the name of End of Prophethood, is noteworthy. It facilitates mutual support in many ways.

The All Parties Namus Risalat Conference organized by the Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN) was indeed a big affair with all the right-wing top brass assembled in the Dreamland Hotel in Islamabad. It must have cost a fortune. Where do the finances come from? Are any accounts kept and audited? Could they also end up inwronghands? Arguably under the fair umbrella of End of Prophethood, it is the Deobandi, Salafi and Wahabi national and international political agenda thatis promoted.

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## The founding father Quaid-i-Azam, Muhammad Ali Jinnah said:

"In any case Pakistan is not going to be a theocratic State — to be ruled by priests with a divine mission. We have many non-Muslims — Hindus, Christians, and Parsis — but they are all Pakistanis. They will enjoy the same rights and privileges as any other citizens and will play their rightful part in the affairs of Pakistan." Page 125 Jinnah Speeches and Statements 1947-1948, Oxford 1997

"Minorities DO NOT cease to be citizens. Minorities living in Pakistan or Hindustan do not cease to be citizens of their respective states by virtue of their belonging to particular faith, religion or race. I have repeatedly made it clear, especially in my opening speech to the Constituent Assembly, that the minorities in Pakistan would be treated as our citizens and will enjoy all the rights as any other community. Pakistan SHALL pursue this policy and do all it can to create a sense of security and confidence in the Non-Muslim minorities of Pakistan. We do not prescribe any school boy tests for their loyalty. We shall not say to any Hindu citizen of Pakistan 'if there was war would you shoot a Hindu?" p. 61, Jinnah Speeches and Statements 1947-1948, Oxford 1997

## 2. Murders in the Name of Faith; Assaults and Attempts

Ahmadis have been murdered for their faith more frequently since the promulgation of Ordinance XX. Till now hundreds have been killed, and not even 5% of the killers have faced justice. People are told by mullas that Ahmadis are Wajib-ul-Qatl 'must be killed'. All this encourages criminals to attempt murder. This year the casualties are fewer but the propaganda was relentless.

It seems that the murder planners are quite choosy about their targets. All the martyrs this year were seniors and professionals. One was the president of a district community, Mr. Saleem Lateef. He was a senior lawyer, and was going to the court with his son when attacked. The murderer shot him twice at point-blank range and also shot at his son, who luckily survived. Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad was another victim. He had a PhD in food and nutrition, and had retired from the University of Veterinary Sciences.

Professor Ms. Tahira Parveen Malik was an M Phil in Botany and Plant Science from California, USA; she was now teaching in Punjab University. She was found murdered in her room in university premises.

Mr. Basharat Ahmad was target-killed in Khanpur, District Rahim Yar Khan.

A press report implicated Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat in murder of Ahmadis. (See p. 56) In 2010 extremists-sponsored killers shouting Khatme Nabuwwat – Zindah Baad (Long live – End of Prophethood) attacked Ahmadiyya mosques in Lahore and killed 86 worshippers at Friday prayers in Lahore. The chief minister Shahbaz Sharif decided not to make a condolence or sympathy call on the afflicted community.

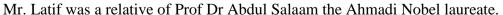
Essential details of this year's murders and assaults are given below.

#### **Another Ahmadi murdered for his faith**

Nankana Sahib; March 30, 2017: Mr. Saleem Lateef community president of the district was target-killed in Nankana Sahib at about 9 A.M. His son, motor-cycle co-rider was also shot at by the assigned assassin, but fortunately he survived.

According to the details Mr. Lateef was being driven to the courts. The assassin had a pump-action gun. The first shot hit him in the right rib while the second hit him in the back. Mr. Lateef died on the spot. The attacker fled the scene. The victim had been receiving threats for some time.

Mr. Lateef was 70. He was a good man – hospitable, kind and a friend of the poor. He was brave too. In 1989, Nankana Sahib suffered extensive anti-Ahmadi riots. His house was then set on fire by miscreants. (Mian Nawaz Sharif was the chief minister Punjab at the time.) Later his father-in-law was roped in a religion-based police case. He died while in prison.



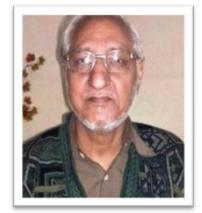
According to one source, the banned sectarian outfit Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) al-Aalami, also linked to the Islamic State, claimed the responsibility for the attack.

Reportedly, a man named Rashid was arrested. He was employed as a guard at Ali Jewelers and the weapon he used is also registered in the name of the proprietor of the shop.

#### **Another Ahmadi killed for his faith**

Lahore; April 7, 2017: Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad from Sabzazar, Lahore was gunned down

near Scheme Mor, Lahore on April 7, 2017. He was going to offer Friday prayers along with his grandson and a friend. He was going by car, and as it slowed down on Scheme Mor, Multan Road, a motorcyclist, wearing a helmet, approached and shot him at his temple from point blank range which killed him on the spot. Other persons in the car remained unharmed. Dr. Ahmad was 68 years old and was an active member of the community. He had a PhD in food and nutrition, and had retired from the University of Veterinary Sciences.



Saleemuddin, the spokesman of the Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan condemned the barbaric murder of

Dr.Ahmad and stated, "It is the second Ahmadi who has been murdered for his faith within the last 10 days. A few days ago a prominent Ahmadi lawyer in Nankana Sahib was killed and today another renowned Ahmadi has been murdered." A well-organized hate campaign is being carried out throughout the country and innocent Ahmadis are falling prey to it. On one side the government is saying that the Operation *Raddul Fasaad* is against all sorts of extremists and nobody is being discriminated on the basis of religion, whereas the reality is that Ahmadis are being targeted in broad daylight. Taking no action against such hate mongers has encouraged such elements and they are attacking Ahmadis. In order to stop the bloodshed of precious human lives, it is crucial to take strict legal actions against the hate campaign and prejudice," he added.

#### One more Ahmadi murdered for his faith

Khanpur, Distt. Rahimyar Khan; May 3, 2017: An Ahmadi Basharat Ahmad from Khanpur, district Rahimyar Khan was shot dead for his faith on May 3, 2017. Mr. Ahmad was going home on motor bike from his petrol station located outside the city. Unknown gunmen shot him at close range and left himon the road. He died on the spot.

He had no hostility with anyone. He was 62 years old and is survived by his widow and three children, a daughter and two sons.



#### Murder of an Ahmadi lady professor

*Lahore; April 18, 2017:* Professor Ms. Tahira Perveen Malik of the Punjab University was found murdered in her room on April 18, 2017.

Although according to the police, she was murdered in the course of a theft, in our opinion the on-going anti-Ahmadi propaganda and the relative security enjoyed by those who murder Ahmadis is a reason that criminals feel free to attack Ahmadis.

Ms. Malik was daughter of a well-known Ahmadi. She was an M Phil in Botany and Plant Science from California, USA.

#### Ahmadi escapes ambush

Kot Lakhpat, Lahore; June 10, 2017: Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim survived an attack on his life while he was going to work in Thokar Niaz Baig.

He has worked in Modern Enterprises for the past 19 years. He was on his way to work when assailants in two cars chased him. They fired several bullets, some in the air and two aimed at him which missed him narrowly. Both the cars then diverted to Raiwind Road.

Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim's home is adjacent to Ittefaq Hospital, Lahore. For years the administration of the hospital has wanted to buy his house, but he did not agree. A year ago they attempted a forced take-over of his house and threatened him.

The attack has been reported to the police and the administration.

#### Ahmadi narrowly escapes assault

Syed Wala, Nankana Sahib; November 17, 2017: Mr. Basharat Ahmad survived an attack on his life when he was returning home from his shop in Syed Wala.

Mr. Basharat is president of the local Ahmadiyya community. He owns a jewelry shop. He was nearing his home when two unknown persons on motor bike stopped in front of him. One of them asked him, "Are you Basharat?" He replied, "Yes". At this the second man took out his pistol. Mr. Basharat immediately ran inside a nearby house by pushing away a woman standing at the door, and cried for help. The assailant did not fire because of the woman and the ruckus. Some people hurried to the site. The assailants fled waving their pistol in the air.

The attack was reported to the police and a case was registered. However, the inquiry made little progress as all the witnesses are under pressure of the local mullas and Khatme Nabuwwat activists.

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#### Qadianis deserve no human sympathy: Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat

The daily Jasarat; May 23, 2013

#### Lahore: Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah

...Addressing the Punjab Assembly's Press Gallery Committee here on Friday, he said that he had commented in a TV programme that the Ahmadi community did not get the freedom which the other minorities in the country had, due to certain constitutional bars.

Published in Dawn, October 14th, 2017

# 3. Imprisonment and Prosecution on Religious Grounds

Ahmadis continue to be booked, arrested and sentenced to imprisonment terms, even death, for their faith, under Ahmadi-specific laws, blasphemy laws and other laws. PPC 295-A is often imposed, as it facilitates recourse to trial in a speedy anti-terrorism court. Bails are often denied, even in higher courts. Imprisonment sentences are doled out by the judges. This year three Ahmadis were sentenced to death; they were accused of tearing an anti-Ahmadiyya poster. Unbelievable, but true.

Nine Ahmadis faced prosecution in a false police case after an unprecedented raid on Ahmadiyya central offices last year. Two of the arrested were refused bail. They were sentenced to three years' imprisonment this year by an Anti-terrorism Court.

An Additional Session Judge sentenced Mr. Qamar Ahmad Tahir to imprisonment for life for allegedly defiling the Holy Quran. He was arrested after a mob attacked an Ahmadi-owned factory in Jhelum. Most of the rioters were released by the court but a victim Mr. Qamar Ahmad was punished over spurious evidence. He was acquitted on appeal, after remaining in prison for 21 months.

Mr. Abdul Shakoor deserves special mention. He was an optician and owner of the only bookstore in Rabwah. He was arrested in December 2015 for selling allegedly hateful Ahmadiyya books. He was awarded 5+3 years' imprisonment by an anti-terrorism judge. He is in his eighties and of fragile health. His plea for appeal against the decision lies with the Lahore High Court and is pending for over a year.

A lot more happened. In all, 77 Ahmadis were booked in 10 police cases. 9 Ahmadis were behind bars for their faith on 31 December 2017. Following stories provide essential details.

#### Three Ahmadis, innocent of any blasphemy, sentenced to death

*Bhoiwal, District Sheikhupura; October 11, 2017:* Three Ahmadis, Mr. Mubashir Ahmad, Mr. Ghulam Ahmad and Mr. Ihsan Ahmad of Bhoiwal were sentenced to death by a judge Muhammad Akram in Ferozwala.

Four Ahmadis, three mentioned above and one Mr. Khalil Ahmad were charged under PPC 295-A, 337/2 and 427 for allegedly tearing an anti-Ahmadiyya sticker/pamphlet on May 12, 2014. Mr. Khalil Ahmad was shot dead two days later by a madrassah student, while in police custody. A year later, at the request of the opponent party a high court judge added deadly clause PPC 295-C to the charge-sheet on March 9, 2015. Their pleas for release on bail were rejected at all levels, even by the Supreme Court. Now they have been sentenced to death after remaining behind bars for three and half years.

At this occasion the Asian Human Rights Commission issued an excellent 'Statement' AHRC-STM-136-2017, titled **Pakistan: Court sentences Ahmadis to death.** It summarizes adroitly the overall situation of Ahmadis in the country. Only two entries therein need to be improved by us:

- 1. "Many Ahmadis accused of blasphemy have been killed in jail by police officers. Not a single person responsible was ever caught or punished," may be read as, "Ahmadi accused have been killed while in police custody. Not even five percent of the criminals who murdered Ahmadis have been arrested or prosecuted."
- 2. "Thousands of Ahmadis have been jailed for the 'crimes' of praying, ..." may be read, "Thousands of Ahmadis have been prosecuted for the 'crimes' of praying ...".

#### Ahmadi sentenced to life imprisonment under blasphemy law PPC 295-B

*Rawalpindi; July 1, 2017:* Mr. Liaquat Ali Ranjha, Additional Session Judge, Jhelum sentenced Mr. Qamar Ahmad Tahir to imprisonment for life for allegedly defiling the Holy Ouran.

Mr. Tahir was arrested on November 20, 2015 after a major arson attack in Jhelum by a mob on Pakistan Chip-board Factory owned by an Ahmadi. The incident resulted in riot, extensive damage to Ahmadiyya property and en-masse flight of Ahmadis from the locality. The next day a mob attacked the local Ahmadiyya mosque, set fire to its furnishings and occupied it. The police made some arrests but most of these attackers and arsonists were released on bail.

Mr. Tahir, a security official of the factory was accused of burning pages of the Holy Quran. He was not released on bail during the trial that lasted 19 months. He was sentenced to imprisonment for life.

He appealed against the sentence to the High Court. Judge Abaid ur Rahman Lodhi heard the appeal and acquitted him on August 29.

Mr. Qamar Ahmad Tahir was released after having spent one year, nine months and eleven days in prison for a crime he did not commit, nor would he ever contemplate committing.

# Two Ahmadis, innocent of any wrong doing, sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment by Anti-terrorism Court

# The drop scene of the first ever CTD raid on Ahmadiyya central offices in Pakistan

*Faisalabad*: An anti-terrorism court awarded three years' rigorous imprisonment to Mr. Idrees Ahmad and Mr. Sabah-ul-Zafar, on four counts, under anti-Ahmadiyya laws PPCs 298-B and 298-C and under Section 9 and 11-W of Anti-terrorism Act, with fine in the sum of Rs. 50,000 under each Section. The sentences were announced on 31 May 2017, and will run concurrently. Seven other accused in the same case were acquitted.

This case was registered under FIR No. 70/2016 on December 5, 2016 at Police Station CTD, Faisalabad after the Counter-terrorism Department's (CTD) armed raid on Ahmadiyya central offices and the Zia ul Islam Printing Press in Rabwah.

Ahmadiyya annual report for 2016 commented on the raid in following words:

The PML government in the Punjab scored another 'first ever' by mounting an armed police raid in the name of counter-terrorism on the Ahmadiyya central offices in Pakistan. Nearly everyone who matters in the field of law and order knows very well that Ahmadis have remained strongly committed, since their inception, to oppose militancy in the name of religion. Still the CTD went ahead with nod from the top. The strong ties between the governing party and the mulla defy rational analysis. The raid brought

little credit to the rulers; instead it manifested how unscrupulous authorities can commit great wrongs in the name of right.

The above statement holds true today as last year.

Political leaderships in the province were counseled by various well-wishers repeatedly in the follow-up of the raid to withdraw this unjustified case. USCIRF also condemned 'the brutal raid', but the higher-ups persisted in unwarranted prosecution.

There are some glaring flaws in the trial proceedings and the verdict. These deserve a brief mention:

- 1. The CTD raid was carried out on the pretext that a monthly Tahrik Jadid and a daily Alfazl were being published despite official ban. In fact, Ahmadis had subsequently moved the Lahore High Court against the ban and the Court had stayed the ban by order: "Until the next date of hearing, no coercive measurers shall be adopted against the petitioners." As such the CTD raid had violated the Court orders. In the present case, the ATC judge accepted the 'stay' but held that monthly Ansarullah was also recovered from the accused; hence the guilt. But the accused were facing the trial for publishing Tahrik Jadid and Alfazl; monthly Ansarullah was not the issue.
- 2. All the witnesses for the prosecution were policemen; most of them were subordinates of the 'complainant', a police inspector and the investigating officer, also a police official. No independent witness was brought forth.
- 3. It is noteworthy that while the raid was undertaken in the name of countering terrorism, anti-terrorism clauses of law were agitated and the accused were hauled to an Anti-terrorism court, nothing in the nature of terrorism was brought forth in the evidence by the prosecution. There was nothing to show. The applied clauses 9 and 11-W of Anti-terrorism Act require commission of "threatening, abusive or insulting words, displays, writings or recordings, or disseminating material to incite hatred or support to any person, proscribed organization or anyone concerned with terrorism". No submission was placed before the court on this count, nor the judgment refers to any such activity whatsoever by the accused.

It is obvious that the authorities' actions under terror laws were all *malafide*. Anti-Ahmadi bigotry was propelled by anti-terrorism cordite to terrorize this marginalized community. The judge simply bought the prosecution story fabricated in the FIR that even accused the Ahmadis of using 'excerpts from Holy Quran and Hadith frequently in the said magazines.' Strange definition of terror!

4. Miscreants and unscrupulous elements like Mulla Hassan Muaviya and his acolytes were all along associated with the CTD raid and the follow-up. Muaviya is a full time anti-Ahmadi activist belonging to a Khatme Nabuwwat (KN) organization. He was detained by the police along with three other KN activists for involvement in the murder of an Ahmadi professor in Lahore. He was soon released by the authorities 'for lack of evidence'; he is a brother of the influential Maulana Tahir Ashrafi. During the trial he was often seen on prowl in the court premises. In the final stage of the trial Advocate Ghulam Mustafa Chaudhri of Khatme Nabuwwat Lawyers Forum was admitted by the court to support the prosecution team. This is weird that in an entirely official case pleaded by no less a person than the Deputy Prosecutor General, all of a

sudden a mulla activist from a rabid sectarian organization was allowed to intervene in support of the state.

In short, the CTD raid was hideous, unwarranted and unlawful. It was carried out against a very soft target, a community that is known to have never indulged even in street protest. It was undertaken to show (fake) efficiency with perhaps training also in mind. The FIR was fabricated and carried obvious false information. A few items produced as evidence were acquired from open market and not recovered during the raid.

This writer met the aged father of the convicted Mr. Zafar and found him unruffled – even lively. He looked epitome of trust and faith in God. He uttered not a word against the authorities and the mullas responsible.

It makes sense that the anti-terrorism crusade should have its special law, a CTD, police stations and Anti-terrorism courts etc., but thereby it becomes all the more important for these courts to ensure that authorities do not misuse the system, and that watchful justice is available to the accused. In many third-world countries, authorities use terrorism dishonestly as excuse to persecute individuals and groups not in their good books or to serve their political self-interest. Pakistan, a major victim of terror itself, should make doubly sure that it is not guilty of misuse of the anti-terrorism structure, nor should the state allow extremist religious elements highjack the system to their advantage.

The verdict of the ATA court has been appealed in the High Court. However, the High Court has not found time to hear the victims of this miscarriage of justice. This year Mr. Imtiaz, an Ahmadi pressman was acquitted by a judge but after he had spent two years behind bars. Mr. Idrees Ahmad and Mr. Saba Zafar have been awarded rigorous imprisonment on terrorism charges; they deserve to be released at the earliest to escape unwarranted crippling hardship of a prison in the land of the pure.

O ye who believe! ... Let not a people's enmity incite you to act otherwise than with justice. Be (always) just, that is nearer to righteousness. And fear Allah. Surely Allah is aware of what you do. (Al-Quran 5:9)

#### An FIR: against seven Ahmadis

Lahore; October 25, 2017: Hassan Muaviya, a brother of widely known Maulvi Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, is an anti-Ahmadiyya religious thug in Lahore. He is the main instigator in different police cases against Ahmadis. He managed to get another police case registered in Lahore against Ahmadi elders who reside in far-away Rabwah. On October 25, 2017 at 00:30 an FIR was registered in police station Gujjar Pura, Lahore against seven Ahmadis. The time of the FIR is worth noting. One purpose was to get two Ahmadis arrested from the court premises where they were to appear before a court the next day. The FIR was registered under PPC 295-A, 298-C and ATA 11-W.

The Ahmadis implicated in the case are:

- 1. Mr. Tahir Mahdi Imtiaz (Printer Monthly Tahrike Jadid)
- 2. Mr. Abdul Sami Khan (Editor Daily Alfazl)
- 3. Mr. Ihsanullah Dansih (Ahmadiyya missionary, Editor Monthly Tahrike Jadid Urdu)

- 4. Mr. Shahid Mahmood (Ahmadiyya missionary, Editor Monthly Tahrike Jadid English)
- 5. Mr. Rashid Minhas (Ahmadiyya missionary, Manager monthly Tahrike Jadid)
- 6. Mr. Nafees Ahmad Ateeq (Ahmadiyya missionary, Publisher monthly Tahrike Jadid)
- 7. Mr. Amir Faheem (Ahmadiyya missionary, composer monthly Tahrike Jadid)

It should be noted that the police in Lahore obliged Muaviya so readily as to register a very serious case at very short notice against Ahmadi personages living in a remote district, accusing them of crime under the Anti-terrorism Act and a blasphemy clause. This servitude of the police in the provincial capital to a petty religious thug deserves no adjective other than 'disgraceful'.

**Follow-up.** Mr. Tahir Mahdi Imtiaz, a printer and Mr. Abdul Sami Khan, Editor daily Alfazl went to Lahore to attend a police case in court on October 26. When they came out of the court after the hearing, Hassan Muaviya and his gang of approximately 15 mullas intercepted them. They manhandled Mr. Tahir Mahdi and attempted to detain and take him to the police station under the FIR which was lodged the previous day in Gujjar Pura police station. They took law enforcement in their hands. In the attempt they tore his shirt. Luckily Mr. Imtiaz managed to escape the scene.

The police took no action against Muaviya for his thuggery – of course.

#### **Another FIR registered against Ahmadi victims of Dulmial**

*Dulmial, District Chakwal, Punjab; March 24, 2017*: A violent mob had attacked the Ahmadiyya mosque here on December 12, 2016. Two persons, an Ahmadi and a non-Ahmadi died at the occasion. As a result, social peace of this locality got seriously disturbed. The police registered an FIR against both non-Ahmadis and Ahmadis and arrested men from both parties, in a strange display of impartiality.

The leaders of the riot demanded another FIR against Ahmadis for the death of one of their youth in the riot. The police did not entertain this demand. The mullas approached a court to have their FIR registered. The Sessions Court directed the police to register the FIR as demanded. The police appealed to the Lahore High Court against the decision. Subsequently the LHC also maintained the decision of the Sessions Court and ordered the police to register a separate FIR against Ahmadis.

As a result the police registered FIR Nr. 65 against 40 Ahmadis, in Police Station Choa Saydan Shah, District Chakwal under PPCs 302, 324, 337F(VI), 337F(III), 337A(I), 148 and 149 for the murder of Mr. Naeem Shafiq – a member of the rioting and attacking mob. He had come from a distant village to participate in the procession.

#### A typical criminal case under anti-Ahmadiyya law and its classic follow-up

*Lahore; March – August 2017*: On March 13, 2017 two Ahmadis in Lahore, Mr. Amjad Iqbal Saloni and Mr. Ikram Ilahi allegedly violated anti-Ahmadiyya law by defending the Ahmadiyya position to some non-Ahmadis. A mulla Hassan Muaviya who is a younger brother of Maulana Tahir Ashrafi, the well-known cleric close to the official circles in Islamabad, is a full time anti-Ahmadi activist; he made sure that the police registered a case

against the two Ahmadis, although they were reluctant to do that. In fact, Muaviya obtained the help of a court to get the FIR registered.

The police registered the case not only under a clause of the anti-Ahmadiyya law, PPC298-C, but also under a blasphemy law PPC 295-A that may be tried in an anti-terrorism court, and is punishable with 10-year imprisonment.

The accused were arrested, and the case ended up in an anti-terrorism court. The ATA judge gave the opinion that anti-terrorism clauses were not applicable in the case and it should be taken to a normal court.

In the meantime, the accused applied to the Lahore High Court for release on bail. On July 11, LHC sent the case back to a magistrate for routine handling. The magistrate sent the case to the civil judge. After a few court appearances the civil judge sent the case to the Additional Sessions Judge. The ASJ Mr. Khizr Hayat Minhas heard the case on 19 August 2017, and refused the plea for bail in the first hearing.

The Ahmadi accused, denied the basic and essential relief, now await trial for allegedly defending their community position in the presence of ill-wishers. Ahmadis wonder how to defend themselves against repeated accusations in vernacular gutter rags that Ahmadis are the greatest enemies of Pakistan and Islam.

The accused applied to the High Court for release on bail; it has not found time to hear and give a decision.

#### Callous police case against 20 Ahmadis

Lathianwala, District Faisalabad; October 6, 2017: Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community attempted to capture local Ahmadiyya cemetery land. Ahmadis opposed this attempt and called the emergency police at 15. The police came and imposed peace. The SHO called both the parties to the police station on October 11, 2017. He heardboth the parties and arrested 20 men from each side under PPC 407/451. This was justice a' la Punjab Police. Following Ahmadis were detained:

1.	Mr. Tariq Azeem	2.	Mr. Sarfraz Ahmad	3.	Mr. Mohsin Faheem
4.	Mr. Azeem Akhtar	5.	Mr. Shafiq Ahmad	6.	Mr. Irfan Ahmad
7.	Mr. Sarfraz Ahmad	8.	Mr. Atif Ahmad	9.	Mr. Ateeq Anjum
10.	Mr. Ijaz Ahmad	11.	Mr. Ali Habeeb	12.	Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad
13.	Mr. Naeem Asgar	14.	Mr. Idrees Ahmad	15.	Mr. Jahanzaib Ahmad
16.	Mr. Waheed Asif	17.	Mr. Naseer Ahmad	18.	Mr. Muhammad Nasrullah
19.	Mr. Naeem Ahmad	20.	Mr. Shareef Ahmad		

This case has a history. In 2010, a man, Muhammad Akram was killed in this area. The opponents of the Ahmadiyya community got agitated over it and demolished the outer wall of the Ahmadiyya cemetery and made it an issue. Subsequently the DCO gave decision in favour of Ahmadis. The opponents' plea against the decision was rejected by the Commissioner also. They took the case to the Revenue Board. Now they attempted to take law in their own hand.

#### Faith-based police case against Ahmadis

*Quetta; October 11, 2017:* The President of Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya Rabwah (the main body of Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan) and Mr. Naseer Ahmad Farooqi, the District Amir of Ahmadiyya community in Quetta were booked under PPC 419, 420, 427 and 34 with FIR no. 140 in City police station, Quetta. The background of the case is noteworthy.

A non-Ahmadi Muhammad Alam *aka* Baloch Khan occupied the land adjacent to the Ahmadiyya mosque here which had been sealed by the authorities. Ahmadis tried to get their land back through legal process. Baloch Khan then got a fabricated police case registered against Ahmadis, to maintain his unlawful occupation. The sessions court and high court have given their verdict in favour of the Ahmadiyya community. However the legal process of transferring the posession back to the Ahmadis is pending.

Instead of completing the process of transferring back the property to Ahmadis, the police urged Mr. Farooqi to obtain bail or present himself in the court to face the trial. Mr. Farooqi got his bail from the court.

Moreover, Baloch Khan also threatened Mr. Mahmood Ahmad Bhatti, the Ahmadi lawyer who is pleading the Ahmadiyya case in the court. Mr. Bhatti had to lodge an application against this threat to his life.

The victim party feels harassed by the authorities even though the courts support its claim.

#### **Baseless police case against Ahmadis**

Haveli Majoka, District Sargodha; November 17, 2017: Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community indulged in slander and quarrel with some local Ahmadis. They had some issue with the selling of a few trees which are on the land of an Ahmadi. A non-Ahmadi youth Mujtaba came to the Ahmadiyya mosque and scuffled there with an Ahmadi elder, Mr. Zafarullah. Another Ahmadi Mr. Ahmad Yar intervened to make peace but Mujtaba did not stop. Mujtaba also misbehaved with the local Ahmadiyya missionary there. Ahmadis had to call the police.

The police arrived and detained not only the mischief makers but also two Ahmadis, Mr. Arif and Mr. Amir who are sons of Mr. Ahmad Yar, under section PPC 107/151. On their way to the police station, the policemen called Ahmadis infidels, deniers of Khatme Nabuwwat (End of Prophethood), etc. Ahmadis had to get bail from the court the next day.

The opponents were not deterred by the police action. They kept on threatening the local Ahmadis and their missionary. Ahmadiyya missionary had to be relocated in the face of these threats.

#### **Police action under threats of Khatme Nabuwwat activists**

*Syed Wala, Nankana Sahib; November 01, 2017:* A bogus police case was registered under sections 337/H, 34/B, and 11-20/65 against Mr. Muhammad Zafarullah, a son of Mr. Basharat Ahmad the president of the local Ahmadiyya community. The police apparently registered the case under duress, on insistence of the local Khatme Nabuwwat group.

Mr. Basharat reported that their private security guard was on duty at their shop. The police came there for routine security check. They told the security guard to fire from his gun,

to check if it was in working order. He attempted three times but all were misfires. The police personnel then checked his gun and told him to clean it before further trials.

After the visit, while the police was still in the bazaar, the guard again fired three shots in the air. All were success. The activists of Khatme Nabuwwat however made it an excuse and lodged an application in the police station against him, alleging spread of terror. The SHO attempted to calm them down and told them that the trials were conducted on police demand, but the activists remained stubborn and threatened him with protest, procession and strike. At this the SHO registered the bogus case.

#### **Booked for trivial misdemeanor**

**Rabwah**:Mr. Naveed A Khan, an Ahmadi from Sukkur was on a visit to Rabwah. He stayed with a relative there. On October 23, 2017 he undertook routine maintenance on his licensed 9m.m. pistol. On completion, he fired a few shots in the air for trial.

Not far from where he was staying, mullas have built a madrassah. Hearing the shots, they came running, raised hue and cry and reported to the police, falsely accusing Mr. Khan and others of attacking them.

Mr. Khan got apprehensive and quit the place. The mullas mounted heavy pressure on senior police officials over this non-issue. The latter, as a result, directed Ahmadi leadership to present Mr. Khan. They did that, and the police booked him under T.P. 337H2 and violation of A02015-A013/20/65/2B.

The accused had to present Rs 50,000/- as security bond for release on bail.

#### **Ahmadi community leader sentenced**

Chak 63/DB, Distt. Bahawalpur; February 19, 2017: Mr. Shahbaz Ahmad Bajwa is the president of local Ahmadiyya community. SHO police station Yazman told him to install CCTV cameras on the local worship place of Ahmadis for security. There was some unavoidable delay on account of lack of funds and availability of suitable cameras. The SHO, in unwarranted haste, arrested Mr. Bajwa with FIR no. 31/17 under The Punjab Security Ordinance 2015, on February 19, 2017 for not obeying the orders.

Mr. Bajwa was presented in a court the next day. The judge imposed a hefty fine on him – fifty thousand rupees. The fine was paid to obtain his release.

One recalls that sometimes back, on demand of mullas, the Rawalpindi police forced the Ahmadi elders there to remove security cameras from the Evan e Tauheed, the Ahmadiyya worship centre. It seems that if Ahmadis take security measures they are made to undo them while if they are slow in tightening their security they are punished for that. It is a dilemma in all situations.

#### **Harassment in District Sialkot**

*Tarsaka Siyan, Distt. Sialkot; May 2017:* A man named Fayyaz Ahmad is very active on anti-Ahmadiyya front. In 2009 he opposed and prevented the burial of an Ahmadi woman Hajrah Bibi in the local cemetery.

Now Fayyaz harassed Mr. Muzaffar Ahmad, a local Ahmadi office-bearer. He dropped garbage infront of Mr. Ahmad's house, and called bad names to him. He sent a false application to the DPO that Mr. Ahmad had kidnapped his nephew and tried to convert him.

The local SHO called both of them and told them to reconcile. Mr. Ahmad agreed but Mr. Fayyaz refused. At this, the SHO registered a case against both under PPC 107/51 and locked them up. Both got their bails and were released from prison the next day. Now this fabricated case is in the court. Mr. Muzaffar Ahmad is facing prosecution for no valid reason.

#### Conspiracy to invoke blasphemy law

Dera Gulab Khel, District Khushab; April 2017: Mr. Mohammad Yunus, an Ahmadi owns and manages here a registered private school. A student of class VII, along with his family accused Mr. Yunus of blasphemy. In support they produced an Islamiat text book on which the statement 'Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the last prophet of Allah' was crossed out in red ink and the words "It's wrong" were written above it. It is noteworthy that a brother of this student is enrolled in the local madrassah.

Considering the gravity of the accusation, Mr. Yunus applied to DPO Khushab to investigate this false allegation. The DPO instructed the SHO to investigate and report. The SHO admonished the false accusers, and suggested that a forensic report be sought. To this Mr. Yunus agreed readily, as such a report would be a help in establishing the truth.

#### Narrow escape from blasphemy charge

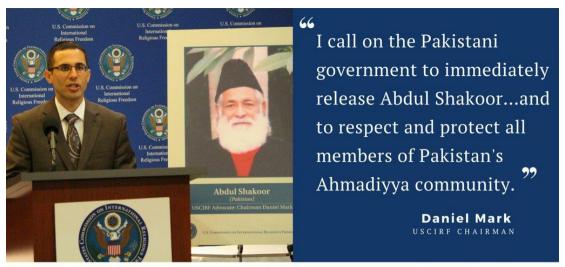
Ganga Pur, Distt. Faisalabad; May 2017: Mullas announced here holding of a Khatme Nabuwwat conference on May 20, 2017. They advertised it through banners and posters. Mr. Faheem Ahmad, an Ahmadi tore down a poster from a rickshaw. The rickshaw owner reported this to a mulla who agitated the issue. The local Aman (peace) Committee was about to resolve the dispute peacefully when mullas of Sunni Tahrik from outside intervened and rejected the proposal of the Aman Committee. They protested, encircled the police station Khurrianwala and demanded registration of a blasphemy case. At this, higher police officials called both the parties to their office and told Ahmadis to apologize to the other party. Ahmadis did that and the issue was settled. The police took two Ahmadi youths in custody and released them later.

# Chairman Mark of USCIRF advocates release of Mr. Abdul Shakoor, Ahmadiprisoner of conscience

Twitter and USCIRF website, July 2017: Chairman Daniel Mark is advocating on behalf of Mr. Abdul Shakoor, Ahmadi book store-keeper of Rabwah and his Shia shop assistant, both suffering long imprisonment under Anti-terrorism clauses etc. He has done that as part of USCIRF's Religious Prisoners of Conscience Project which highlights individuals imprisoned for exercising their freedom of religion or belief, as well as the dedicated advocacy of USCIRF Commissioners working for their release. Chairman Mark adopted Mr. Abdul Shakoor as his Prisoner of Conscience. We reproduce below, his tweet and statement on USCIRF website:

#### **Tweet**





U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

#FreeReligiousPrisoners

https://twitter.com/USCIRF/status/885977403637600256

#### Statement available on video

My name is Daniel Mark and I am the Chairman of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom. I am speaking out today in support of Abdul Shakoor, a Pakistani optician and bookstore owner who is in his 80's. The Pakistani government unjustly has imprisoned him for propagating the Ahmadiyya faith. The Pakistani government should not only drop all charges and set Abdul Shakoor free but also respect and protect the basic rights of all members of Pakistan's Ahmadiyya community. On December 2, 2015, Punjab state counter-terrorism department raided Mr. Shakoor's bookstore and arrested him after he was accused of selling an Ahmadiyya commentary on the Quran among other publications.

He was charged with propagating the Ahmadiyya faith, a crime under the Pakistani penal code and storing up religious hatred and sectarianism, crimes under the 1997 Anti-terrorism Act. After a speedy trial in an anti-terrorism court he was sentenced on Jan 2, 2016 to five years' imprisonment under the penal code for blasphemy and three years under the Anti-terrorism Act (sic). His shop assistant Mazhar Abbas a Shia Muslim who is detained with him was sentenced to five years under the Anti-terrorism Act. The Pakistani government should immediately set him free too. Let's be clear Abdul Shakoor is not a terrorist. He was arrested, charged and imprisoned because he is an Ahmadi. His arrest, sentencing and detention are outrageous enough but so too are Pakistan's' constitutional and penal code provisions that prevent Ahmadis from exercising their faith.

Equally egregious is the Pakistani government use of anti-terrorism laws as a pretext to deny Ahmadis their fundamental right to religious freedom. Pakistan's constitution declares Ahmadis to be non-Muslims and the penal code makes it criminal for Ahmadis to refer to themselves as Muslims, to preach, propagate or disseminate materials on their faith or to refer to their houses of worship as mosques. Moreover, in order to apply for a passport or national I.D. card or even vote, all Pakistani Muslims are required to sign in oath that the founder of the Ahmadiyya faith is an imposter prophet and that all Ahmadis are non-Muslims. In short, Ahmadis are required to denounce their faith in order to avail themselves of important several rights in Pakistan. Ahmadis also continue to be murdered in religiously-motivated attacks that take place with impunity. I call on the Pakistani government to immediately release Abdul Shakoor and ensure his safety, to release all other religious prisoners of conscience and to respect and protect all members of Pakistan's Ahmadiyya community.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=5&v=ZhSv\_WtH7ps

#### A good news - eventually

**Rabwah**; May 2017: Mr. Tahir Mahdi Imtiaz, printer of Ahmadiyya publications was acquitted by an Anti-terrorism court on all counts on 5 May 2017 and released. He remained incarcerated for two years, one month and six days. He was prosecuted under the blasphemy laws, anti-Ahmadi law, anti-terrorism law and other penal clauses in a fabricated police case in which he was fraudulently framed, implicated and arrested. It is a sad but memorable story that deserves a brief resume'.

On complaint of a mulla, the police booked in April 2014 two Ahmadi brothers who worked at a burger outlet in Lahore. The complainant accused them of preaching Ahmadiyyat. He managed to produce from somewhere a copy of the Ahmadiyya monthly Ansarullah in support of his fake case. The police co-operated and booked as many as six Ahmadis in the case including Mr. Imtiaz the printer of the monthly. At the time of the alleged preaching, Mr. Imtiaz was over 150 kilometers away at his home in Rabwah with his family. The charges included one (PPC 295-A) from the blasphemy section and another (PPC 298-C) Ahmadi-specific.

Mr. Imtiaz was arrested by the police on March 30, 2015 when he was in Lahore on a visit.

In view of the circumstances of the case, Mr. Imtiaz's plea for bail should have been routinely granted but the judge did not. Mr. Imtiaz then took his plea to the Lahore High Court. Justice Anwar ul Haq heard his plea and announced the grant of bail. However, later he refused to sign the bail order and referred the case to the chief justice, Justice Manzur A Malik. This was unprecedented and extraordinary. The CJ appointed a bench of two judges, Mazhar Iqbal Sindhu and S Sarwar Chaudhari to hear the plea. These pious judges not only refused his bail, but also ordered that Anti-terrorism clause 8-W ATA be added to the case which should be heard by an ATA court. Ahmadis were distressed by the decision while the mullas celebrated it.

Four months later, a two member bench of the Supreme Court also did not grant Mr. Imtiaz's plea for bail. This was most surprising as the prosecution did not point to a single passage or even a line that could be remotely considered blasphemous or promoting terrorism. Mr. Imtiaz remained behind bars and the prosecution continued.

The tormentors of Mr. Imtiaz got encouraged and demanded that the more deadly clauses of the blasphemy section, PPC 295-C and 295-B be added to the charge sheet. This was also conceded by the trial judge. Now Mr. Imtiaz was fighting for his life, after having committed no offence.

Ahmadiyya annual report on persecution for 2015 mentioned this case and offered: "Some impartial NGO or eminent journalist should look into this case in depth and place on record a fair opinion on current role of the state and society in handling an Ahmadi's court case."

Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, judges of ATA courts get transferred for departmental reasons, and the cases before their courts get prolonged as a result. Mr. Imtiaz had entered the third year of his confinement. The latest judge cared more for justice than the

opinion of watch-dogs sent by clerics. He acquitted the innocent accused of all charges. May God bless the worthy jurist.

It should be mentioned that authorities were repeatedly informed, formally and informally, that the case against Mr. Imtiaz was fake and baseless.

Mr. Imtiaz's release deserves to be celebrated; but what about the loss in prison of two precious years of his prime time in life. The plight of his family during this period defies description.

The stress of the trial, the hardships of prison life, the high financial costs of the trial and incidental expenses have taken their toll. The state imposed all this on an innocent Ahmadi for no valid reason, to no avail, wrongfully and viciously.

Thanks to the worthy judge for acquitting the innocent accused; but the state has numerous tools to harass Ahmadis, and the mulla knows it. Hasan Muaviya again moved the police and got another fake case registered againt Mr. Imtiaz on October 25, 2017 under a blasphemy clause PPC 295-A and anti-terrororism clause 11-W. The next day, this mulla along with his gang of thugs was present at the court's premises to deliver Mr Imtiaz to the police, where hewas to present himself for another case hearing. Mulla Hasan Muaviya is a brother of the powerful, state-supported mulla Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi. Ashrafi and his younger brother bring little credit to the government of Pakistan.

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# Extracts from Supreme Court's judgment SMC No. 1/2014 etc. of 19<sup>th</sup> of June. 2014

- ✓ The right of religious conscience conferred on every citizen is a right conferring three distinct rights i.e. Right to Profess, Right to Practice and Right to Propagate. What this means is that Article 20 does not merely confer a private right to profess but confers a right to practice both privately and publicly his or her religion. Moreover, it confers the additional right not only to profess and practice his own religion but to have the right to propagate his or her religion to others. It is important to note that this propagation of religion has not been limited to Muslims having the right to propagate their religion but this right is equally conferred on Non-Muslims to propagate their religion to their own community and to other communities.
- ✓ However, the defining feature of a democratic governance is complete dedication and adherence in everyday life to the seminal principles of equity, justice and inclusion of all irrespective of their colour, creed, caste, sex or faith. The sustainability of democracy depends on how best these challenges are met.
- ✓ The afore-referred report and other incidents of faith or ethnic based violence indicate that mere textual pledges in the Constitution, though important are not enough to ensure that those rights would be honored in practice. It is, therefore, important that the concerned governments/institutions take proactive lead to ensure that those rights are respected and enjoyed in practice.

(Note: A few still more forceful opinions of the SC on this subject are available in our Annual Report for 2016, p. 36.)

## 4. Mosques under Attack; Worship Denied

The state and the society did not relent this year as well in targeting Ahmadiyya places of worship. This is most hurtful to the religious sentiments of the community. The authorities refuse permission to Ahmadis to build mosques. They are quick to yield to mullas to destroy their minarets and niches. The judges often look for an excuse to hand over Ahmadi mosques to their opponents. The bigots use force to occupy them or put them to torch.

This year, numerous successful attempts were made to deny Ahmadis a place of worship at various locations. In this they were often helped by authorities. Authorities do not allow Ahmadis to build even community centres. At times they refuse permission to undertake essential repairs to these places. Ahmadis of Kahkashan Colony in Rabwah had to stop the construction of their community centre due to the opposition of a single mulla. In Sheikhupura, an attempt was made to set fire to an Ahmadiyya mosque. In Lahore Ahmadis were stopped from worship in their prayer-centre by the authorities on the pressure of mullas. Stories in this chapter describe such events.

Ahmadis have been denied their basic human right of Freedom of Religion and Belief in Pakistan since the promulgation of Anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX in 1984. Since then 27 Ahmadiyya mosques have been demolished, 33 sealed by authorities, 22 set on fire or damaged, 17 forcibly occupied and construction of 58 Ahmadiyya mosques was barred by the authorities.

#### Arson attack on an Ahmadiyya mosque

*Muridkay, District Sheikhupura; August 28, 2017:* The local Ahmadiyya mosque was set on fire by a deranged youth at about 3 a.m. on August 28, 2017. The fire was initiated by dousing a furniture item with gasoline. It was extinguished before it spread.

According to details, the local mulla contacted a youth, incited and bribed him to set fire to the Ahmadiyya mosque. Five thousand rupees were offered for this heinous act. As the damage was nominal, Ahmadis did not pursue the issue further.

#### Obstruction in construction of a community centre

**Rabwah**: Ahmadis are in need of a place of worship in a local neighborhood called Kahkashan Colony. As the administration tends to withhold permission for such purpose, Ahmadis decided to apply instead for construction of a community centre. Permission was granted.

A mulla Usama Raheem, however, has opened a madrassah in Naseerabad, and is ever busy in making mischief against Ahmadis. He approached a court to issue a stay order against construction of the Ahmadiyya centre. The court issued a 'stay' order.

Ahmadis approached the court, showed the judge the authorization and the approved construction plan; so the court lifted the stay, and the construction continued.

The mulla again approached the DC, who then asked for a report from the SHO.

It is under such circumstances that the Ahmadiyya community has to carry on with its social, religious and community activities and functions. It is indeed a great hardship. The authorities do not tire of proclaiming that minorities enjoy all sorts of privileges and facilities in Pakistan, however the mulla is free to obstruct and deny these constitutional freedoms to the marginalized groups, and in this he is rarely snubbed by powers that be.

#### Worship denied to Ahmadis in Iqbal Town, Lahore

*Iqbal Town:* An Ahmadiyya mosque was built here in 1987; Ahmadis used it for worship and community gatherings.

Later, mullas raised hue and cry over this place of worship and, in league with authorities, had the worship discontinued at the location.

Over the years, Ahmadis started using the place for worship again. The mullas approached the police and demanded that Ahmadis stop worshiping there as per earlier decision. The police sent for Ahmadi elders and reiterated the ban on worship.

Ahmadis have discontinued worship at the site. They have no other place for worship in the neighborhood.

Former prime minister is on record to have asserted: "All citizens of Pakistan, all over, regardless of their faiths, avail equal rights. I am sincerely committed to the welfare and protection of rights of all minorities: Nawaz Sharif." (*The daily Mashriq; Lahore, April 6, 2015*)

#### Repairs and upgrade of an old Ahmadiyya mosque blocked

Mandhiala Waraich, District Gujranwala; June 2017: Ahmadiyya local mosque is in a poor state and needed attention. Its roof got dilapidated and the users decided to change it after raising the walls by two feet. They had hardly placed the slabs after raising the walls when mullas came to know of it. The latter had the work stopped with the help of police.

Ahmadiyya delegation met the C.P.O. who asked them if they had obtained the prior permission. Ahmadis told him that permission was needed for new construction, not for reconstruction of an old structure. The C.P.O. telephoned the local S.H.O and issued instructions. The SHO sent for the two parties as also the so-called Peace Committee from Gujranwala city. The opponents demanded dismantling of the new roof and threatened to take over the Ahmadiyya mosque. Ahmadis were forced into accepting their unjustified demand. Accordingly the new roof was dismantled and the old structure was maintained.

The roles of police and the Peace Committee are noteworthy.

#### Problems in construction of an Ahmadiyya centre

**Dhor, District Nawabshah; June 2017**: Ahmadis decided to build a community centre on a plot registered in the name of Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya. They got the construction plan approved by the Sindh House Building Control Authority, and approached the DC to get NOC for the construction. When an official came to inspect the place, a local shop-keeper named Ghaffar came to know of the plan for building the Ahmadiyya centre. He agitated the issue. He led a rally against Ahmadis on June 9 and got all the shops closed in protest against

the construction of the proposed centre. Ahmadis contacted the authorities, who intervened and decided to let the situation calm down before further action.

Thereafter, on a Friday, the mullas held a *Dharna* (sit-in) of approximately 50 protesters at this site. Ahmadis reported this to the police. The police assured Ahmadis of support and security.

Later the police sent a report to the DC on the issue with their observation that construction there could be a threat to the general peace and create a law and order situation.

Well, that put a stop to Ahmadis' plan of having a community centre. The administration provides them tea and sympathy, but does the mulla's bidding. The rights of the marginalized communities are readily sacrificed at the altar of 'law and order'. Are the police not required to maintain law and order when miscreants threaten the constitutional rights of others?

Also, can the authorities point to one occasion when they authorized Ahmadis to build for themselves a place for worship, in the last thirty years? Whither freedom of religion or belief for Ahmadis?

Whither the much trumpeted claims of equal rights for all communities!

# Exertion and sweat required to build an Ahmadiyya community center in Pakistan - unbelievable

Gorgaij, District Larkana; May-July 2017: There is a sizeable Ahmadiyya community in the village Gorgaij located in District Larkana, the home town of the well-known Bhutto family. Ahmadisthere decided to build a small complex comprising a school, a mosque and a residence for the religious teacher. For this they had a plot of land. The mullas however had their eyes on that plot and they intended to occupy it. The construction had already started, but the mullas from the nearby town of Wara became active to stop it. They reported to the police, as a first step.

The police visited the site and talked to the local population. Having heard the general opinion, the police permitted Ahmadis to resume construction of the boundary wall, but not build any madrassa etc. At this occasion the visiting police inspector and the local chief (a non-Ahmadi) reproved the mullas for attempt to deny the Ahmadis their right to practice their faith.

A few days later, urged by the mullas, the building contractor stopped the work on the boundary wall. When approached by Ahmadis, he regretted his action and resumed the work.

Thereafter, a delegation of mullas from Wara called on the village chief of Gorgaij who put them to shame for their unworthy campaign. The mullas noted the chief's annoyance, went back and declared that Ahmadis in Gorgaij were not their concern.

A week later the mullas changed their mind and decided to become aggressive. They declared that they would hire a crane to demolish the boundary wall. On hearing this, the village chief sent them a message that the crane would be destroyed on trespassing.

On July 5, the mullas arrived in numbers. The situation became tense. The police were informed by the Ahmadis. They came, dispersed the crowd and arrested one of the miscreants. Later, the mullas got him released.

The next day, the mullas took out a procession in Wara and indulged in bad-mouthing the Ahmadis. They accused the village chief of conversion. They decided to proceed to Gorgaij and destroy the built-up portion of the complex. The police as well as the district ISI official were informed. The police arrived, so did a group of miscreants all set to undertake the demolition. The police threatened to open fire. The miscreants had to beat the retreat.

The mullas thereafter took a few days to approach the district leadership of JUI who expressed sympathy with their cause. At this the village chief invited the senior mulla at Wara to come personally to solve the issue; the chief did not invite people from Larkana to meddle with the local affairs.

Eventually, it was decided by mutual agreement that one Mr. Tharo Khan, chief of the Chandio tribe would decide the issue. However, on July 16 the mullas formally applied to the police to register a blasphemy case against 8 named Ahmadis for allegedly defiling the Quran. The penalty could have been life imprisonment to all. The police took down the names of these Ahmadis but withheld further action for the time being.

On July 18, Mr. Tharo Khan gave the following verdict:

- The boundary wall already built (8 feet high) will be dismantled to the height of 5 feet
- A large entrance gate may be installed.
- No further construction is permitted. No school or mosque shall be built.

The police hurried to have the verdict signed by the Ahmadis.

True: Believe it or not!

### Agitation over entrance to an Ahmadiyya mosque

Lodhran; December 2017: The local Ahmadiyya community has a mosque here which has two gates. Its main gate opens on the main-road and is rarely used, while the other opens in the back street. The main gate needed maintenance and reinstallation after essential repairs. The opponents found an excuse therein to raise hue and cry. They said that Ahmadis had fixed a new gate which should be blocked. Mullas sent an application to the administration. Ahmadis approached the Assistant Commissioner, explained him the factual position, and he closed the issue – for the time being.

Pir Zafar Ali Shah Mehrvi led a procession on 12 Rabiul Awwal. He is a rabidly anti-Ahmadi mulla. He stopped in front of the main gate of Ahmadiyya mosque and again agitated the gate issue. At this the Ahmadis received a message from the DPO to close down the gate within two days. Ahmadis approached the AC who had settled the issue earlier, but he also relented and advised Ahmadis to close the gate lest higher officials seal the mosque. Ahmadis had no option but to close the main-gate of their own mosque.

The incident shows the absence of protection of law, for Ahmadis.

#### Administration imposes uglification on an Ahmadiyya mosque

Chak 287, Pilasor, District Toba Tek Singh; December 7, 2017: The local administration told Ahmadis to demolish the minarets of their mosque. When asked the reason, they said that they had received no complaint from the locals, but received the photos of minarets of the mosque from the provincial head office, hence demolish these forthwith. Eventually it

was settled that the outer wall would be raised high enough to cover the minarets from being visible from outside.

#### Orders to demolish minarets and niche of still another Ahmadiyya mosque

*Distt. Muzaffar Garh; December 2017:* The police came to the local Ahmadiyya mosque in 34R Chak and told Ahmadis to demolish the niche and minarets of the mosque. They were told that this mosque was built in 1960, before the promulgation of the anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX in 1984. The SHO also came at the site, and the same stance was conveyed to him. He went away satisfied.

Mullas however persisted and put pressure on the DPO to demolish the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque. The DPO called the SHO and told him sternly to solve the issue. The SHO came again to the mosque, this time in an angry mood and told Ahmadis to demolish the minarets or face registration of a police case. Ahmadis told him that they would not demolish the minarets in any case. Later he told Ahmadis to meet the DPO. An Ahmadiyya delegation met the DPO and explained their stance. The DPO obtained a copy of the Ordinance XX, read it and told Ahmadis that they could not build minarets and niche. Ahmadis told him that they were forbidden to call their places of worship a 'Masjid', but the Ordinance did not forbid Ahmadis to build minarets or niche. Moreover minarets are builtnot only in mosques but also in other buildings. They are merely a design. Ahmadis conveyed him firmly that if the administration wanted to demolish the minarets, the police would have to do so in uniform otherwise Ahmadis would not allow any other person to demolish them. The DPO understood and told Ahmadis to remain calm until the issue was settled.

### Seven years on, perpetrators of attack on Ahmadi worship places still at

large: A press report by Rana Tanveer (of the daily The Express Tribune, Lahore)

Published: May 29, 2017

LAHORE: Seven years have passed since two Ahmadi worship places were attacked in Lahore on May 28, 2010, but the masterminds and perpetrators of these attacks are still at large.

In January this year, an anti-terrorism court had sentenced an accused to death and his accomplice to life imprisonment for the attack on Ahmadi worship place in Model Town. Both the accused were overpowered by Ahmadis in the worship place and later handed over to the police. However, no one is arrested nor brought to the book for attacking or facilitating the attack at the other worship place in Garhi Shahu the same day. At least 72 worshipers were killed in Garhi Shahu while 22 died in the Model Town attack. In the following days, the death toll surged to 104 (sic). The Punjab Taliban claimed the responsibility for these attacks.

A survivor from Model Town, Amjad Ahmed, told The Express Tribune he has lost hopes for any justice as his community has already suffered a lot for handing over two attackers to police after overpowering them. He said they were pressurized by the police several times in the name of investigation. He said both the accused have been kept in custody for seven years but none of their handlers or facilitators were arrested.

Amjad said the twin attacks have made the lives of Ahmadis more difficult.

#### A noteworthy comparison

*May 2017*: A news item in the daily Dawn of May 31, 2017 has triggered a comparison between a modern secular state (the US) and an 'Islamic' republic (Pakistan):

It was reported from New Jersey, US that:

"A New Jersey town will pay an Islamic group \$3.25 million to settle a lawsuit over its denial of a permit to build a mosque, the Department of Justice announced Tuesday.

Under the settlement, the group will be allowed to build the mosque and the town agreed to limit the zoning restrictions placed on houses of worship."

Compare the above with the situation of Ahmadiyya mosques in Pakistan. It is now decades that Ahmadis have not been granted permission to build for themselves a house of worship anywhere in Pakistan.

Other figures on this issue, since the promulgation of the anti-Ahmadiyya ordinance, are given below:

•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques demolished	27
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques sealed by authorities	33
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques set on fire or damaged	22
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques forcibly occupied	17

It should be mentioned that in most of the above cases, authorities (administrative, police, municipal or judicial) played some role in commission of these abominations. They, of course, quote some reason or excuse to justify their actions.

Granted that the great religion Islam promotes peace, tolerance and interfaith respect, its followers should occasionally examine their conduct in the light of its teachings.

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#### **Opinions**

#### We have let down the Ahmedi community

Pakistan is being torn apart by one of the greatest evils known to man: a slow genocide instigated by hate and warped religious ideology. Ratcheting up our attacks against the typically docile Ahmedi community...Daily Times editorial; May 27, 2017

# Siobhain (British MP) leads(parliamentary) debate on persecution of

### Ahmadiyya Muslims (12 February 2016)

...That state-sponsored persecution has been enshrined in the country's constitution since 1974. On top of that, Ahmadis are openly declared as "deserving to be killed", with neither the state nor civic society willing to stand up for them against extremists.

http://www.siobhainmcdonagh.org.uk/newsroom/local-news/news.aspx?p=105190

 Speaking at a literary seminar, Wusatullah Khan, a senior journalist and commentator, sarcastically said,

"The way Pakistan has been treating the Ahmadi community is reminiscent of The Third Reich's treatment of the Jews in the 1930s and '40s."

Khan added, "The same thing is happening here day in and day out and it happens to be the only point of reference on which all the sects, namely Sunnis, Shias, Deobandis, Wahabis, Barelvis, Salafis/Takfiris, etc, are united."

http://www.dawn.com/news/1076534/license-to-killDecember 26, 2013

### 5. The Administration; the Mulla

A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP between the Pakistani state and the mulla was General Ziaul Haq's idea. He had no constituency except the Army. He needed a collaborator from the public, however unbefitting. He chose the mulla. To get him on his side the dictator imposed an Islamist state on Pakistan. Anti-Ahmadi Ordinance XX was a part of that policy. It is unfortunate that even after the general's death in an air crash in 1988, no regime, democratic or military, has been able to rid itself of General Zia's legacy.

The Punjab is ruled these days by Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz). Mr. Shahbaz Sharif is the chief minister of this province. The PML (N)'s affinity for the politicoreligious elements, which have a history of extremism, even terrorism, has been talk of the town and was mentioned in dispatches. The police do the bid of their political masters. Their role in stopping Ahmadis in sacrificing animals on Eid festival, their registration of fabricated criminal cases against Ahmadis, and the fresh ban on Ahmadis to publish their foremost religious scripture throw a flood of light on the unholy alliance between the mulla and the PML (N). Azad Jammu and Kashmir's political establishment is also a leader of this unholy alliance against the Ahmadiyya community. KPK is little different.

HassanMuaviya, an aggressive anti-Ahmadi activist, a brother of mulla Tahir Ashrafi the chairman of the state-supported Pakistan Ulama Council, continues to severely harass Ahmadis, with the support of the police.

Rana Sanaullah, the law minister of the Punjab said in the Punjab Assembly, "Constitution provides full religious freedom to all the minorities in Pakistan, but this could not be given to Ahmadis as they do not consider themselves a minority." The daily Dawn, October 18, 2017

This year there were cases of torture, loss of security, harassment, threats to livelihood etc. against Ahmadis at various locations. The politicians in power, not only hinted no relief; they came forth unabashedly in favour of tightening the screw further on this marginalized community.

A major portion of what is mentioned in this annual report is the handiwork of this unholy pairing of the politician and the mulla. Incidents that do not fall under any other heading, and are manifestly the output of this duo, are reported in this chapter.

#### An Ahmadi tortured by idiotic and criminal junior officials

Lahore; August 2017: Mr. Riasat Ali was picked up by CTD personnel, taken to theirhideout and tortured to obtain information on community affairs, which is even otherwise conveniently available in print and electronic media.

There is a background to this case. On April 17, 2017 some religious bigots shot dead an Ahmadi, Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad in Sabzazar Colony, Lahore. The police found out that the killer used a motor cycle that had a number 645 on its plate.

Mr. Riasat Ali, Ahmadi's motor cycle's registration number is LEQ645. He joined the community in 2005, and is a decent practicing Ahmadi.

The police made the required inquiries from him and his son. A lady official interrogated the women of Ali's family. The CID/CTD personnel searched their house and shop, found nothing suspicious, but told them to remain available and not go away. Mr. Ali had no reason or design to shift.

Then, on August 18, when Mr. Riasat Ali went on his motorcycle to offer Friday prayers, he was picked up along with his bike by Counter Terrorism Department personnel. He was driven to some far off location where he was interrogated.

The interrogation was not merely verbal; it was accompanied with torture – quite unnecessarily. They asked him only one question about the murder of Dr Ashfaq Ahmad; all others were related to the functioning of the Ahmadi community.

Mr. Ali was bad-mouthed, beaten up, taken down to a basement where his raised hands were tied up to a pipe and his feet were joined by an iron anklet. He was deprived of food and normal drink for three days.

It is very relevant to mention here that the Geneva Convention unequivocally prohibits torture in all circumstance. Pakistan is its signatory. Thus these officials committed a crime by violating this law.

They asked him stupid questions like how much was he paid to convert. He was also asked: Who is your chief in Lahore, in Pakistan; whom do you proselytize; what are the names of Qadianis in your neighborhood; how often have you visited Rabwah, etc. Mr. Ali replied whatever he knew and excused himself for what he knew not.

These dense and ignorant lower staff members did not know that all the important information regarding the aims, objects, organization, functioning of the Ahmadiyya community has been made available in print and on the Internet. This community is not a clandestine group with secret agenda. Its message is universal, and it is in its own interest to make itself transparent and open. Authorities should open the blocked website www. alislam.org; there is more information on that site than they need or would like to handle.

The CTD has the noble duty of taking effective action against terrorists, their facilitators and their sponsors. By torturing Ahmadis like Mr. Riasat Ali, arresting octogenarians like Mr. Abdul Shakoor and raiding Ahmadiyya publication offices and presses they are dialing the wrong number, wasting their limited resources and time, and are thus neglecting the terror hubs from where terrorists launch their attacks on the government and people of the Punjab as they did during last one and half year: 1) 74 killedin Lahore on March 27, 2016, 2) 14 persons, including senior police officers killed on Mall Road in Lahore, 3) six persons including five troops killed in Bedian Road, 4) at least 26 killed including 9 policemen near the Arfa Karim IT Tower, all in Lahore, the capital of the Punjab.

Isn't something drastically wrong with the priorities allotted to the role, training, deployment and performance of this important department of the government?

# Ahmadis forbidden in the Punjab to publish their prime and foremost scripture

Lahore: The government of Punjab took steps in 2011 to make sure that Ahmadis were not allowed to publish the Holy Quran and its translations; however it is now that the provincial authorities are actively investigating if any violations of 2011 law have taken place. This investigation is being conducted on instigation of MullaHassan Muaviya, younger brother of the well-known Maulvi Tahir Ashrafi, a full time anti-Ahmadiyya activist and a religious thug. The Punjab law on this subject deserves a comment.

Prior to year 2011, the publication of the Holy Quran was done under the provincial Act of 1973. This facilitated Ahmadis to publish their translations and *Tafseer* (commentaries) of the Holy Quran. In 2011, the Punjab government was moved by the mulla to enact a revised law on this issue, whose main object was to deny Ahmadis their lawful right to publish their holy book and its translation etc. Accordingly, The Punjab Holy Quran (Printing and Recording) Act 2011 was promulgated. Mian Shahbaz Sharif was the chief minister.

The new law contained little new to add to the 1973 law to ensure error-free printing of the Holy Quran; however it included *Section 7* which was Ahmadi-specific, without naming Ahmadis. It provided:

"Translation or interpretation of the Holy Quran contrary to belief of Muslims – where, in a copy or record of the Holy Quran, or in any extract thereof published in a text book, a prayer book, a religious treatise or any other book, an Ayah is translated, interpreted or commented upon by a non-Muslim contrary to the belief of Muslims, the author, the printer or publisher, or the person who prepared the record, whether or not registered under this Act, shall, unless he proves that such translation, interpretation or commentary occurred only owing to a printing or mechanical error, be liable to punishment provided for in section 9."

This provision is highly vague and open to question as there is no authority to precisely state the 'belief of Muslims' and what is 'contrary' to it. The primary two sects of Islam differ with each other even on the text of the basic creed, the *Kalima*. Anyway, the object of the law was to stop Ahmadis, and that was achieved.

This law also provides for the government to constitute a Quran Board. It would be very surprising if any such board would act differently than the infamous provincial Muttahida Ulama Board that recommended and got all the (86) books written by the founder of the Ahmadiyya community banned last year.

Sub section 5 (7) of this Act provides: "No record of the Holy Quran which injures its sanctity, in any form, shall be prepared". The phrase 'in any form' gives unlimited power to any narrow-minded member of the Board to insist that the mere fact of an Ahmadi translating the Holy Quran'injures its sanctity'. This is not mere conjecture; most mullas insist that an Ahmadi using Islamic greetings of *Salaam* (peace) injures its sanctity. Magistrates are known to have awarded imprisonment sentences to Ahmadis for wishing *Salaam* to 'Muslims'.

Section 3 now requires a publisher to have him registered on prescribed terms and conditions promulgated by the government. As such, it is no longer possible for Ahmadis to become registered as publishers of the Holy Quran.

The 2011Act provides that its violation entails 'imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine of not less than twenty thousand rupees, or with both.'

Understandably, Ahmadis can no longer publish the Holy Quran, its translations and its commentary. They and their future generations have no option but to read in Urdu the non-Ahmadiyya versions of controversial issues like Jihad, etc. The list can be long depending on the specific 'belief of Muslims'.

As a result of this law, no print copy of the Holy Quran and its translation by an Ahmadi is available in any office of the Ahmadiyya headquarters in Rabwah, nor in the town's main library. Incredible!

This law is an obvious violation of both the national and the international laws on religious freedom. Article 20 of the Pakistan Constitution and Articles 18 and 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are relevant.

# A Press reports implicatesAalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme-i-Nabuwwat in murder of Ahmadis

*Lahore; May 21, 2017:* The daily Dawn, Lahore published the following report on the front page of its Metro Central section, today:

#### Four held in Ahmadi professor's murder case

LAHORE: The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of police on Saturday took four members of Aalmi Majlis-i-Tahfuz-i-Khatam-i-Nubuwaat into custody for their alleged involvement in killing a retired professor of the Ahmadi community.

Dr Ashfaq Ahmad, 68, a nutritionist by profession and a retired professor of the Lahore University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, and his grandson were travelling by a car to attend their religious gathering in Sabazazar when an unidentified motorcyclist stopped them at a traffic signal near Shah Fareed Chowk on April 7 and fired on them. Mr Ahmad suffered critical bullet wounds and succumbed to his injuries on the spot.

Earlier, Sabazazar police had registered a [murder] case against unidentified person(s) but later handed the case over to the Lahore CTD police who added terrorism charges [to the FIR].

Later, a banned militant outfit Lashkar-e-Jhangvi al-Alami had claimed responsibility for the killing. A news release issued by the outfit stated that a commando of the Lashkar-e-Jhangvi al-Alami's Riaz Basra brigade had killed Mr Ahmad.

According to sources, the CTD police had raided a house in Singhpura locality of Baghbanpura and took Hassan Moavia, Irfan, Muhammad Khan and Jahanzaib into custody.

A senior CTD police officer on condition of anonymity told Dawn that they had taken four suspects who belonged to Aalmi Majlis-i-Tahfuz-i-Khatam-i-Nubuwaat into custody for interrogation. One of the suspects, Hassan Moavia, was released because he was declared innocent and others were still in custody and would be interrogated, he added.

On March 30, Malik Latif, a prominent lawyer belonging to the [Ahmadi] community, was shot dead in Nankana Sahib. Banned sectarian outfit Lashkar-e-Jhangvi had claimed responsibility for the attack.

The CTD have arrested the suspect and registered a case against him under terrorism charges.

**Note**: For long we have been suggesting in these reports that Khatme Nabuwwat organizations are involved, directly or indirectly, in attacks on Ahmadis. We have also mentioned the role of Mr. Hassan Muaviya in numerous atrocities committed against Ahmadis in Lahore. However, this brother of Allama Tahir Ashrafi, an influential cleric, manages to evade consequences of his criminal acts.

#### PM Azad Kashmir to act against Ahmadis to please mullas

*Muzaffarabad:* The daily Dunya, Islamabad published the following story as Bureau Report on June 10, 2017:

Ulama may rest content that the Shariah Court will be more powerful than before: Farooq Haider Immediate action will be taken against Qadianis' activities in Kotli: address in Ulama meeting

Muzaffarabad (Bureau report): Raja Farooq Haider Khan, the prime minister stated that the ulama should rest content that Sharia Court is being made more active and powerful. It will no longer be treated frivolously. Immediate action will be taken against Qadianis' activities in Kotli. Unlawful use of loudspeaker will not be accepted. Half-yearly payment to madrassahs shall be released. We shall allocate funds in future for construction of mosques and madrassahs. Imams and madrassah teachers will be confirmed in their posts, and their problems shall be solved. I greatly respect the senior ulama; they should contact me before issuing a statement against official actions. He stated all this in a high level meeting in the PM House, of the Movement for Protection of Madrassahs.

It would be recalled that the mischief of declaring Ahmadis 'Non-Muslims' was first initiated in the Azad Kashmir Assembly in 1972.

#### Azad Kashmir (AJK) Assembly passes an unworthy resolution

Muzaffarabad; April 26, 2017: AJK Assembly has done it again. First time it was in 1973 that this assembly took the initiative of passing a resolution recommending imposition of non-Muslim status on Ahmadis. This was then taken up by Mr. Z. A. Bhutto in Pakistan in that the grievous Amendment Nr II was made to the Constitution in 1974. This gave birth to anti-Ahmadi laws 10 years later in the form of Ordinance XX of General Zia, initiating a wave of persecution of the Ahmadi community that has brought embarrassment to the country in the comity of nations in addition to numerous other harms to the society and the state. It is now well-known that the above referred 1973/74 initiative had a foreign hand in it.

Forty-four years thereafter, the members of AJK assembly should have been wiser and realized the evil of suchan initiative; instead they have proved that they are a legit progeny of their moronic political forefathers, and have come up with a unanimous proposal to outdo their 1973 performance.

On April 26, 2017 a resolution was moved by one Syed Ali Raza Bokhari of the ruling (PML-N) party. In preamble it referred to the Assembly's 1973 resolution on the issue of End of Prophethood and the subsequent follow-up by the Pakistani state. The present resolution is worded in Urdu; it is lengthy and indulges in legal and religious jargon, so we reproduce here only its intent in plain paraphrased English ensuring nothing important is left out:

- Azad Jammu and Kashmir is an Islamic state, so it is duty bound to legislate in accordance
  with Quran and Sunnah.... All laws and rules on the issue of End of Prophethood are
  applicable in AJK but their effective implementation requires extremely appropriate steps
  by this honourable Assembly.
- Ahmadis should be registered as Non-Muslims and their Identity Cards should carry this fact. Those who do not comply should be punished as per law.
- Those Muslims who join Ahmadiyya should be designated apostates (Murtad) and be subjected to effective penal action. (Mullas insist that the Sharia penalty of 'apostasy' is death: Editor)
- Unislamic activities of Ahmadis should be closely monitored and effectively stopped; the
  administration should restrict, through police, the movement and activities of their clerics,
  and Ordinance XX should be vigorously implemented in letter and spirit. Permanent
  provisions should be made to automatically trigger regulations that impose restrictions on
  Ahmadis, while no relief will automatically ensue in their favour unless the AJK Assembly
  endorses it formally.
- This Assembly strongly condemns anti-Islam blasphemic postings on social media and requires that instructions and directions issued in Pakistan would effectively apply in Azad Jammu and Kashmir also.
- **Notes:** 1) One wonders if the activists and protestors, across the border in Indian-administered Kashmir, are demanding the kind of Kashmiri state as resolved above by the AJK Assembly.
- 2) Mr. Farooq Haider Khan (PML-N) is the prime minister. Ch. Muhammad Yasin (PPP) is the leader of opposition and Mr. Shah Ghulam Qadir (PML-N) is the speaker of the Assembly in AJK. Sardar Masood Khan is the president of Azad Kashmir.

# Ahmadis' 'freedom of religion' underattack. Attackers presume official support

Various locations in the Punjab; August/September 2017: Mullas of the Khatme Nabuwwat (KN: End of Prophethood) factions chose the blessed occasion of Eid ul Azha to indulge in vile efforts to deny freedom of religious practice, a fundamental right to Ahmadis in Pakistan. They declared their commitment to debar Ahmadis from offering sacrificial rites.

Their campaign was particularly paradoxical and ironic at the turn of August/September as the clerics in Pakistan were at that time furious and protesting over the maltreatment of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar, but like these Buddhist monks these Islamist bigots felt no qualms about denying fundamental rights to a marginalized section in their own midst.

In their unworthy campaign they solicited police help at the highest level in the provincial capital. Mulla Muhammad Hassan, the general secretary of the Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat Forum wrote a letter on August 24 to the Inspector General Police (Punjab) to deny Ahmadi the Ibrahimaic *Sunnat* of *Qurbani* (Sacrifice). In his demand, he referred shamelessly to the law PPC 298-C in his support; in fact, this law makes no mention that

'Qadianis are forbidden the use of 'Shaair e Islam' as asserted by the mullas. This mulla gave his address as: Barlas Building, 13 Fan Road, Lahore; Phone Nr: 0324-3131200.

Without waiting for official response, this mulla and his bunch proceeded to implement their plan. They issued a pamphlet urging people, "Safeguarding the Pakistan Constitution is responsibility of us all." It instructed them, "If you see any Qadiani undertaking *Qurbani*, report to the nearest police station." For help in registration of the criminal case they were advised to contact the following mullas: "M K Shirazi in Lahore; Sikandar Hayat in Islamabad; Qazi Rahim in Chenab Nagar; Imran Yusuf in Gujranwala, Mr. Naqvi in Sialkot; Umar Farooq in Pasroor; Imran Ass in Narowal; Muhammad Ali in Sheikhupura; S. Izhar Shah in Naushera Virkan and M. Amir in Jhelum." Co-producer of this pamphlet was the Khatme Nabuwwat Youth Force.

If the authorities are looking for some leading religious bullies who need disciplining under the NAP, the above listed are volunteer candidates.

Khatme Nabuwwat mullas are not short of funds. They use all means to justify their share from the purse of violent Islamism. They put up banners here and there to the same end. One such banner, whose photo is held with us, carries the following message (translation from vernacular):

"It is our foremost duty to show regard for the Constitution of Pakistan."

According to Pakistan law (PPC) 298-C Qadianis cannot practice Qurbani a Shaair Islam. Report the violator to police.

From: Muhammad Gulzar, President Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat Forum Pakistan. #03234254454(Note: The denial of this right is falsely attributed to PPC 298-C.)

This effort of the sectarian extremists did not go entirely waste. There were incidents at some places where the police was coerced to intervene and make *Qurbani* problematic for Ahmadis. For instance:

- In Adrahma, District Sargodha, mullas reported to the police that Qadianis were undertaking *Qurbani*. The police moved and contacted the local Ahmadi chief. He was asked to give in writing that the *Qurbani* will not be undertaken in the open but in a covered area.
- Mulla Irfan informed the police in Daska, District Sialkot that Ahmadis mentioned in the list provided were likely to undertake *Qurbani*. The police contacted the concerned Ahmadis and advised them to be discrete in performing the rite.
- ➤ Mr. Manzoor Ahmad, an Ahmadi in Lahore was in the process of performing *Qurbani*, when the police SHO arrived, along with his party. A mulla accompanied them. The mulla protested over the *Qurbani*. The SHO told him that he should rather be happy that this family had become a Muslim. To this, the mulla had no answer. However the police took note of the I.D. card numbers of Mr. Ahmad and his brother and took away to the police station the second goat that was the next to be scarified. At the police station, another mulla and his followers were present to push their shameful demand. The policemen handled them with tact.

On the third day, the police handed back the goat to its owner. Very nice of them.

➤ In Rabwah, Mulla Rahim is the resident bully and operative. He contacted the police to disallow Ahmadis the *Qurbani* rite. Ahmadis therefore had to exercise care and

discretion in handling the *Qurbani* and collection of hides. Nevertheless, the mulla telephoned 15 to protest. The police told Ahmadis to be more low-key. Ahmadis complied.

> In Qiampur Virkan, District Gujranwala, the police did not permit Ahmadis undertake any Qurbani.

In any other country where the majority practiced Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism or Judaism, their religious leaders would be happy to know that 'others' had taken up their teachings and practices, but in Pakistan, mulla is queer and bizarre that he runs to the police station to report that an Ahmadi had practiced Islam; even more atypical is the police response who get moving to placate the bigots.

#### Ahmadis denied constitutional protection - for reasons

*Lahore; October 18, 2017*: Rana Sanaullah, the law minister in the Punjab gave a strange and unlawful reason to deny constitutional rights to Ahmadis in the Punjab. The daily Dawn reported the following in its issue of October 18, 2017 (extract):

#### Rana Sana tells PA his remarks were misconstrued

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Law Minister Rana Sanaullah Khan on Tuesday told the Punjab Assembly that his remarks in a television talk show were misconstrued and he had actually said that the Constitution provides full religious freedom to all the minorities in Pakistan, but this could not be given to Ahmadis as they do not consider themselves a minority.

This is bizarre. First you deny in law a group their religious freedom to self-identify, then you deny them the Constitutional rights and religious freedom because they protest the wrong done to them initially. Illogical logic!

In another statement quoted in the press, he said, "Ahmadis, are more dangerous to the Islamic faith, than any other non-Muslim minority," (*The daily Din; Lahore, October 10, 2017*), What a statement from a provincial minister, holding Law portfolio!

#### **Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi beats the retreat**

This year Mr. Mahershala Ali was awarded Oscar for 'the best supporting-actor'.

He was then celebrated by many for being the first Muslim to win the coveted award. These included the official PTV and Ms. Lodhi, Pak ambassador to the United Nations.

Mr. Ali, a Muslim convert since 1999, joined the Ahmadiyya Community. This fact triggered a debate in the social media about his religious identity.

At this Ms. Lodhi deleted her tweet.

Saba Imtiaz tweeted: Pakistanis praising someone and the rolling it back cos they discover they're Ahmadi is a fascinating genre of about-face-delete.

Kashif Chaudhri, a well-known American blogger posted on his Facebook account: "The deletion of her tweet by Maleeha Lodhi shows, that even courageous people like her cannot ignore anti-Ahmadi emotional and social attitudes; this reflects the situation faced by Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan." *Translated from a release of Voice of Germany* 

#### **Livelihood of Ahmadis in danger**

Kotli, AJK; November 26, 2017: An Ahmadi, Mr. Abdul Rafae Bhatti S/O Mr. Abdul Shakoor Bhatti works in the project of Gulpur Hydal Power. Tahrike Labbaik Yarasulullah people came to know of his religious identity and took out a procession against him. They accused him of blasphemy and abusing their leader Khadim Hussain Razvi on social media. They also demanded the removal of Mr. Riaz, another Ahmadi, who is the manager of the project. The DSP reached at the spot and dispersed the procession assuring them of legal action against Ahmadis. Anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda was then undertaken by the vernacular press. The opponents also met the Additional Deputy Commissioner Kotli and falsely accused Mr. Riaz of proselytizing Ahmadiyyat to the staff. Mr. Riaz is employed in this project through a Korean company. This company has asked him to resign to avoid the protest of the miscreants. He has done that.

The administration 'advised' Ahmadi workers in the project to move to a safe locality to defuse the situation. Accordingly they were all shifted elsewhere temporarily.

#### Lack of security for Ahmadis and agitation after the riot in Dulmial

I. The daily Dawn published the following story on January 6, 2017, regarding Dulmial: **Ahmadi family's house burgled** 

**Chakwal**: Despite the deployment of over 150 police personnel in the troubled village of Dulmial, burglars broke into the house of an Ahmadi family and took away cash, jewelry and prize bonds.

The house of Khalid Javed, who died of a cardiac arrest during the December 12 attack on the place of worship of the Ahmadi community, was lying vacant as the family had moved to a safer place in the wake of the incident.

"We returned to our house on Tuesday evening and found the main gate locked from inside. I opened it by climbing the wall," Subhan Ayub, the son of late Khalid Javed told Dawn. He said when the family members opened the safe; they found Rs. 280,000 in cash, jewelry sets worth Rs 800,000 and prize bonds missing.

#### II. Follow up by clerics in Lahore

A mulla in his Friday sermon on 24 December 2016, in Masjid Hanafia Ashrafia, Shad Bagh Lahore spoke venomously against Ahmadis and termed the Dulmial incident as one contrived by Ahmadis. He urged revenge for a Muslim's death in Dulmial. He told 'Muslims' to revive their sense of shame which he called 'dead'. He announced a rally for the next day, December 25, 2016, on this issue.

The police were informed and they took firm action to restrain the mulla.

#### III. Protest rallyrestricted in Chakwal

The mullas announced a big rally for the 40<sup>th</sup> day (*chehlum*) after the death of the riot participant in Dulmial. They asked permission to hold the rally in Chakwal Stadium. This was not granted. So they held it in a small mosque close to the Bus Station.

It seems the authorities advised the mullas to restrain themselves. As a result the leading mullas decided to keep away from the rally. The participants were no more than 300. They were not allowed to use loud-speakers. The public were told to remain peaceful; they complied.

#### IV. Situation in the village eight weeks afterwards

A report in the prestigious daily Dawn of February 9 provides a glimpse of what sort of treatment is being meted by authorities to some of the victims:

#### Dulmial's Ahmadis reel in aftermath of mob attack

CHAKWAL: Dulmial resident Malik Zahid Hameed was shocked when he received a transfer order stating that he was being transferred to a primary school in Lari Shah Nawaz on Jan 6.

Mr. Hameed, 47, is a primary school teacher who taught at a school in his hometown from 2002 to 2012.

In 2012, he was transferred to a school in the nearby Tatral Kahoon village, where he was recently replaced by "Khodija Siddeqa of Lari Shah Nawaz", according to a transfer order issued by Executive District Officer (EDO) Education Dr Ghulam Anjum.

The order reads: "An application submitted by a resident of village Tatral Kahoon and members of SMC of Government Primary School Tatral Kahoon regarding the activities of Mr. Zahid Hameed PST of the said school who belongs to Ahmadi *firqa*.

"And due to the current incident at village Dulmial the Muslim community of the village demanded to shift the said teacher immediately to other school and no vacant post of PST is available in tehsil Choa Saidan Shah. Therefore Ms. Khodija Siddeqa of Lari Shah Nawaz may be shifted to GPS Tatral Kahoon and Mr. Zahid Hameed is hereby shifted to GPS Lari Shah Nawaz on administrative grounds to resolve the grievances of the community."

Mr. Hameed's new school is around 18 kilometres from Dulmial, and while the order states that he has been transferred to ease the "grievances" of Tatral Kahoon's Muslim community, it does not explain what these grievances are, or what sort of "activities" Mr Hameed has indulged in.

A day after he received the transfer order, Mr Hameed was told by his assistant education officer that he could not teach at the school in Lari Shah Nawaz either, because the area's residents were not willing to accept his transfer.

The Dec 12, 2016 mob attack on an Ahmadi place of worship has disrupted the lives of Ahmadis in Dulmial. Like the Sunni Muslims of Dulmial, Muslims from Tatral Kahoon are also furious with members of the persecuted community because a man from Tatral Kahoon was killed in the attack.

On Jan 25, Mr Hameed submitted an application with the EDO education asked for a posting in Dulmial so he could work easily, action has not yet been taken in this regard. Dr Anjum, meanwhile, told Dawn he was doing his best to find a solution.

The consequences of the Dec 12 attack in a village where Sunni Muslims and Ahmadis have lived for a century are still being revealed, two months after the incident. Up to 100 police officials are still deployed in the village.

Even though a case has been registered against 3,000 people, on charges of terrorism and sections of the PPC, only 61 people have been arrested and deemed guilty by a joint investigation team.

In the meantime, a social boycott has begun against the village's Ahmadi residents. Mr Hameed said they are not able to visit shops, and have to travel to Choa Saidan Shah just to buy daily household items.

"One of my Sunni relatives died a couple of days ago but I could not go for condolence," said Magsood Begum, 67. "[They] do not even speak to us."

The place of worship that was attacked in December is still sealed, and local police are unwilling to reopen it.

"The Muslims have 10 mosques in the village, while we only have one place of worship and that too is sealed. We have to pray five times a day but we cannot visit our place of worship," said one Ahmadi resident.

The place of worship remains sealed despite an order, available with Dawn, issued on Jan 17 by the National Commission for Human Rights. It stated: "The commission recommends to the police/administration to move into the relevant court for withdrawal of the application filed under section 145 of Criminal Procedure Code.

While local politicians are trying to reconcile the two communities, the village's Muslim community is unwilling to hand the place of worship back to the Ahmadi community before a court decision.

The spokesperson for the Jammat-i-Ahmadiyya Pakistan, Salimuddin, said: "This is not the way to deprive a community of its place of worship. The place of worship should be unsealed and restored to the Dec 11 position. Then let the legal battle begin. We will accept the court's decision."

#### Tribulations of an Ahmadi school teacher in the Punjab

The prestigious daily Dawn published the following report in its issue of June 29, 2017. This is a follow-up of the earlier report titled; **Dulmial's Ahmadis reel in aftermath of mob attack.** 

#### The 'absent' school teacher of Dulmial

Nabeel Anwar Dhakku

CHAKWAL: When he chose teaching as his profession in 2002, Malik Zahid Hameed never thought that he would end up in such a bizarre situation.

But the school teacher, who is also an office-bearer of the local chapter of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat, landed in hot water alongside other members of his community on December 12 last year, when an enraged mob stormed into their place of worship in Dulmial village.

Since then, Mr. Hameed remains "absent from his duty" as per the official record. But ironically, it is not he who is not performing his duties; it is his boss, the chief executive officer of the District Education Authority, who has yet to decide where Mr. Hameed should be appointed, despite the lapse of seven months.

Malik Zahid Hameed has not been assigned a new duty station amid simmering communal tensions. Mr. Hameed taught at a primary school in neighboring Tatral Kahoon village, which is just 4km from Dulmial, when his village fell into turmoil. After a Muslim youth from the Tatral Kahoon village was killed during the attack, it became impossible for the teacher to continue his duties in the village.

He was transferred to Lari Shah Nawaz, 18km from Dulmial on Jan 6, but was soon told by his seniors he could not join as circumstances were not much better in that village, either. Subsequently, his transfer orders were taken back and he was marked "absent".

"I have not received my salary for the past six months since I have been declared absent," the depressed teacher told Dawn.

"How can you live without a salary; it is main source of income for me and my family." He said, adding: "My colleagues have no issue with me and hold me in high esteem, but there is a security risk everywhere."

He said that he felt relatively safer teaching at a school in the Katas village, since his own village was also afflicted by turmoil in the wake of communal tensions.

An official from the Education department told Dawn that due to security concerns, the department is not able to reach a decision about Mr. Hameed's appointment. "He is vulnerable to security risks," the official added.

When contacted, District Education Authority CED Dr Ghulam Murtaza Anjum claimed that a decision would be taken soon. "We are working to rectify this issue," he said.

But peace remains elusive in Dulmial, as its Ahmadi residents are still not allowed to offer prayers at their place of worship, which remains sealed even after seven months and a case regarding its reopening is pending before a local court.

Although both groups had inked a peace deal in February, it could not materialize since the heirs of Naeem Shafique, the youth killed during the attack, were not ready to reconcile.

So far, out of 67 accused 60 have been granted post-arrest bail; 46 secured bail from the Lahore High Court, while on June 23, 14 more accused managed to secure bail from the Supreme Court.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1342056

#### Religious extremism on the rise

Model Colony; Karachi, November 2017: Malik Waseem Ahmad, Ahmadi is a resident of Shah Faisal Town, Model Colony. He owns a business of currency exchange and a whole-sale dealership of rice. For the last two years mullas have been telling the shop owner to get his shop vacated. The shop owner didn't oblige them. Then, the mosque committee sent for the owner to come to the mosque. There they told him to get his shop vacated. At this, he gave one month's notice to Malik Ahmad to hand the shop back. Ahmadis now in search of a different location for his business.

2. Tahrik-i-Labbaik Ya Rasool Allah (TLY) inaugurated their office in Model Colony as they started their movement in the Punjab. They often make hateful speeches against Ahmadis. So, Ahmadis reported to the police. The police banned the use of loud speakers to the TLY. Undeterred, the TLY went a step further and undertook anti-Ahmadiyya wall chalking in the area. They did not spare even the wall of Bait-ul-Sana (Ahmadiyya mosque). This has disturbed the social and sectarian peace of the locality.

#### The trend in Pakistan

A selection of press headlines in early 2017 from various sources, politicians, administration, mullas, judiciary, civil society etc is reproduced below without comment for the reader to draw his/her own conclusions about the way things move in Pakistan:

• Qadianis are more dangerous than Jews and Hindus: Ulama Karam

The daily Islam, January 12, 2017

 Police case registered against Shan Taseer son of the slain governor, for defiling religion

The daily Ausaf, January 4, 2017

 Maulana Abdul Aziz (of Lal Masjid, Islamabad) acquitted even of the last criminal case

The daily Mashriq, January 24, 2017

Ministry (Federal, Interior) rejects Saudi's request to proscribe 94 seminaries

The daily The Nation, January 13, 2017

 On Saturday citing lack of evidence an anti-terrorism court in Lahore acquitted 115 people charged with torching over 100 houses belonging to Christians in the city's Joseph Colony (Lahore)

The daily Dawn, January 1, 2017

 (Maulvi) Ilyas Chinioti (of KN and PML-N) meets Imam Kaba Dr Al-Sudais (of Saudi Arabia)

The daily Jang, January 25, 2017

Order to name the Physics Department after Qadiani Dr. should be withdrawn: Farid Piracha (JI), Amjad Khan (JUI-F), Rauf Farooqui (JUI-S), Abdul Malik (Ittehad Ulama), Allah Wasaya (AMTKN), Zubair A Zaheer (MJAH), Raza Naqvi (Millat Jafaria), Zawwar Bahadur (JUP), Khan Leghari and Azizur Rehman sign the letter addressed to the President.

The daily Ausaf, January 23, 2017

 We support Saudi actions to protect Holy Sites: Piame Aman Conference Trump is afraid of Islam's spread
 Sardar Vusuf (Federal Minister) Muhammad bin Abdul Karim (P.

Sardar Yusuf (Federal Minister), Muhammad bin Abdul Karim (Rabita Aalam Islami), Senator Sajid Mir, Maulana Abdul Ghafur Haidari (Deputy Chair Senate), Raja Zafar-ul-Haq (PML-N), Abdul Qadir Baloch (Federal Minister), Abdullah Al-Zahrani (Saudi ambassador), Hafiz Abdul Karim (chair Standing Committee NA), Siraj ul Haq (JI), Dr Abu Turab (President Defense of Holy Sites), Maulana Fazl ur Rahman Khalil, Shah Awais Noorani, Hanif Jallandhri etc attended (in Islamabad)

The daily Ausaf, January 23, 2017

• Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN – End of Prophethood) calls for an All Parties Tahaffuz Namus Risalat (safeguarding the honour of the Prophethood) in Islamabad on February 1. Maulana Abdul Razzaq Askandar (AMTKN), Maulana Fazl Ur Rehman (JUI-F), Maulana Sami ul Haq (JUI-S) and Qari Hanif Jallandhri are the sponsors.

The daily Insaf, January 31, 2017

Religious and political parties enter the arena to protest the blasphemy law

The daily Islam, February 4, 2017

 Ban on Qadiani activities and registration of police cases against bloggers demanded in the End of Prophethood conference in Islamabad.

Non-issues are turned into issues to revise national ideology under international pressure: Fazlur Rehman (JUI-F), Sami ul Haq (JUI-S), Zafar ul Haq (PML-N), Siraj ul Haq (JI), Fazlur Rahman Khalil (Ansarul Ummah), Sajid Mir (JAH) etc.

The daily Ausaf, February 2, 2017

Milli Yakjehti Council (all mullas) will observe Protest Day on 10 and 17 February

The daily Express, February 9, 2017

 Seerat Chairs established in Holy Kaba and the Prophet's Mosque (S. Arabia) by Imam Kaaba to safeguard End of Prophethood

Imam tells this to the new Amir of IKNM (Maulvi Saeed Inayatullah)

The daily Jinnah, February 3, 2017

Tahrik Khatme Nabuwwat writes letter to the President of Pakistan

The daily Pakistan, February 6, 2017

• Ittehad ul Ulama (united clerics) take out rally "Long Live Pak Army"

The daily Pakistan, January 30, 2017

Deadline given to the government by Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN)

The daily Ausaf, February 7, 2017

### Fair questions arise

*Lahore; February 14, 2017*: A terrorist attack in Lahore, capital of the Punjab, on February 13, 2017 was reported by Lahore press in following headlines:

**Bomber traumatizes Lahore** 

The daily Dawn; February 14, 2017

Lahore: Suicide attack; 13 martyred

A mini doomsday scenario after the explosion Banned Jamaat Al-Ahrar claims responsibility

The daily Jang; February 14, 2017

Lahore blood-soaked once again

National flag will be at half-mast in the country today

13 including 6 officials martyred; DIG Traffic Ahmad Mubeen and SSP Zahid Gondal among them; 87 wounded, 17 gravely injured

Theaters closed; schools will not open today

The daily Nawa-i-Wagt; February 14, 2017

Lahore tragedy: Sorrow all around, martyrs committed to earth

Mourning Day observed in the entire province

The daily Dunya; February 15, 2017

Amin's funeral prayers: burial midst sobs and lamentations

The suicide attack is incompetence of the Punjab government: Aitzaz Ahsan

The daily Pakistan; February 15, 2017

The cancer of terrorism will soon disappear. We'll shed the last drop of blood to put an end to terrorism: Shahbaz Sharif

# Those responsible for defeat in battle against terrorism are seated in halls of power: Tahir ul Qadri The daily Express; February 15, 2017

The massacre was indeed gruesome and tragic. The department charged with fighting terrorism must have had some indications of the threat posed to and the vulnerability of the province. That being so, it is a fair question to ask powers that be: What was the Counter Terrorism force doing in Rabwah only a few weeks earlier on December 5? Their raid on the central offices of the peace-loving Ahmadiyya community was meticulously and diligently planned, executed and followed up. Why did they not spend their time and energy to pursue the real terrorists' hide-outs, supporters and sponsors, so as to avert the tragedy like the one on 13<sup>th</sup> February in Lahore?

Also, as if with nothing else to do, in 2015 the CTD planned and raided the only book shop in Rabwah, and arrested the octogenarian Abdul Shakoor and his Shia shop assistant for selling Ahmadiyya books. Their effective follow-up secured 8 years' imprisonment for the docile book-seller and five years for the innocent assistant. So the question is who has been launching this powerful force on peace-loving anti-terrorist sections of the society, and on whose call? Is the questionable relationship between the authorities and the pulpit legitimate, appropriate and constructive?





Peace-loving Ahmadis made to lie down on ground during the raid of CTD on Ahmadiyya Office on December 5, 2016

Octogenarian Abdul Shakoor dragged by the CTD

#### **Policy statement by the Prime Minister**

*Karachi; March 15, 2017:* PM Nawaz Sharif made a speech in Karachi at Hindu festival of Holi. The daily Dawn of March 15, 2017 reported this speech. It deserves a place on record – (extracts):

KARACHI: Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has said the people of all faiths enjoy equal rights under the Constitution and no one will be allowed to create religious disharmony and instability in the country.

"Islam is a religion of peace, love and humanity, which teaches respect for all religions. There is no religious dispute in Pakistan," he said, adding that the only tussle going on was between the good and the evil, the progressive and the retrogressive elements.

. . .

Extending greetings to the Hindu community on their religious festival, the prime minister said his government was committed to ensuring equal opportunities for all communities as it stood for complete religious freedom and equal rights guaranteed under the Constitution. The government would enact more stringent laws to protect minorities and curb crimes against them, he added.

He said Holi was a festival of colours which gave the message of love and peace. Diversity of religions and faiths was a vital ingredient for unity and all communities would have to transform this element to further foster the bonds of brotherhood and affection, he added.

. . .

He said that some elements had tried to weaken Pakistan by misusing religious differences or distorting history, but the nation had rejected such attempts. The elements trying to create fissures in society on the basis of religion had no place among the people, he said, adding that no one would be allowed to hinder the path of religious tolerance and unity as well as progress of the country.

He said Pakistan was created on the basis of equal rights to all communities and the government would protect all mosques, churches, temples and other places of worship.

The above is a commendable policy statement that echoes somewhat the off-quoted views of the Quaid i Azam in his historic speech in the Legislative Assembly on 11 August 1947. However, this raises the following pertinent questions:

- 1. Why did the Punjab Government mount a CTD raid on Ahmadiyya central offices on December 5, 2016, while the authorities, the CTD and even the mullas know that Ahmadiyya Community has never indulged in terrorist activities? Also, if a mistake was committed by the CTD and its keepers, why the prosecution under this fake case was pursued and the two detained accused were not released on bail?
- 2. Why was 80-years old Ahmadi book-seller Mr. Abdul Shakoor arrested by the CTD personnel in Rabwah for selling Ahmadiyya publications, and his release was not being pursued by his tormentors and prosecutors?
- 3. Why did the Punjab Government comply with condemnable recommendations of its Ulama Board, and banned Ahmadiyya publications of scriptural status, as also all of the community's periodicals, thus violating constitutional guarantees as also the policy guidelines of the federal government, given above?
- 4. Why is the Dulmial Ahmadiyya mosque still officially locked, as demanded by the criminal mob who attacked it on December 12, 2016?

The federating units of Pakistan must honour the guidelines given by the founding father and also the public policy given by the PM of the Federal Government in consonance with the Constitution and the International conventions signed by the Pakistani state.

# Press reports on Mr. Asad Qaisar, Speaker KP Assembly

**Peshawar**: Last year on October 28, 2016 the daily Islam published the following story, (extracts):

"KP: Decision taken to include End of Prophethood subject in syllabi. Instruction issued to move on priority basis, in the light of recommendations of the Ulama.

"Peshawar: (Special correspondent) A high level meeting was held on Tuesday in the Assembly Secretariat under the chairmanship of Mr. Asad Qaisar, the Speaker of KPK Provincial Assembly to formally include Khatme Nabuwwat (KN) in syllabi....

"Mr Asad Qaisar, the Speaker directed the officials to take actions on priority basis on the recommendations of Ulama Karam on this issue of including the End of Prophethood in syllabi and submit an early report.

"The Speaker thanked the ulama in providing guidance and making recommendations to the government on this important and essential change to school syllabus."

Earlier Mr. Qaisar (of PTI) had attended a KN conference in Mardan KPK and told the audience that "Lovers of the Prophet (*Aashiqaan Rasul*) will liquidate all the conspiracies devised by Qadianis (Ahmadis). As per constitution, the deniers of Khatme Nabuwwat are outside the pale of Islam, and soon the KPK government would make End of Prophethood part of school syllabus."

As a result End of Prophethood was made a part of school syllabus in KPK. Everyone knows that mullas and sectarian elements always bank upon this dogma to agitate the minds of common Muslims including youth and children.

Press reports divulged that Mr. Qaisar could have reasons to press on this issue, other than the love of End of Prophethood against the Ahmadi community.

The prestigious daily Dawn published the following report on March 19, 2017 (extracts):

### Khyber Pakhtunkhwa speaker denies corruption charges

Islamabad: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Assembly speaker Asad Qaisar on Saturday categorically denied allegations that he owned a house worth Rs 350 million and was involved in misuse of power.

The presser was held following media reports that the NAB KP director, in a letter, had sought permission from the NAB chief to initiate an inquiry against Mr. Qaisar over charges of corruption and misuse of power.

Media reports claimed that Mr. Qaisar, while declaring his assets, had claimed that he shared a 14-marla house with his brother. Now, it was reported that he owned a 35 Kanal house worth Rs. 350 million in Banigala, Islamabad.

The next day the Dawn published the following report:

# "MPA asks Imran to expel Asad Qaiser from Party

#### **Bureau Report**

**Peshawar**: Former provincial minister of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf Ziaullah Afridi has demanded of PTI chairman Imran Khan to expel Khyber Pakhtun Khwa Assembly Speaker from the party and keep him out unless he is exonerated by a court from the corruption allegations....

Accompanied by scores of PTI workers, the MPA said that the reports about Mr. Qaisar's land properties and appointments made by him had enough substance for the party chairman to sack him otherwise no one would accept the PTI chief's tall claims about merit....

The MPA demanded a thorough probe into the allegations against Mr. Qaisar...."

Some people are of the firm opinion that the louder a politician speaks on pious themes and religious dogma, the higher is the probability of his involvement in dishonourable pursuits.

# **Politics of religion**

**April 2017:** The role of religion and the Ulama is significant and rife in Pakistan. It has a history that is older than the birth of this Islamic republic. The present condition of the state of Pakistan is the direct result, at least partly, of this role. Its future in the same way is linked to the vision and actions of the Ulama who are deeply involved in politics. The centenary celebrations in KPK, of JUI (Fazl ur Rahman)on 7-9 April alongwith the proceedings of the Namus Risalat (honour of the Prophet) conference held on February 1 in Islamabad where Maulana Rahman assumed its leading roleprovide a clear window of overview of this phenomenon.

JUI is a successor of the Jamiat Ulama Hind (JUH) that came into being in 1919. JUH's members, as also leadership, comprised primarily men of Muslims of Deoband school, originally a reformist group that soon turned to politics. They even issued a *fatwa* that, "It is *Haram* (unlawful as per Sharia) for a Muslim to be a member of the Muslim League." During the Raj, this party reckoned that it was no use rising in armed revolt against the British, so it co-operated with the Congress to attain freedom. By early 1940s, Indian Muslims generally rejected the political leadership of JUH, and supported Muslim League – as a result Pakistan came into being.

In Pakistan, NWFP (now KPK) to be specific, JUI was led by Mufti Mahmud, the father of Maulana Fazl ur Rahman. It wielded political clout in the province and on account of its Deoband appeal, controlled a fair share of mosques and madrassahs in other provinces of Pakistan. With the passage of time, and its emphasis on politics in the society, the JUI's reformist role dwindled, and it represented ultra right-wing Islamist politics in the land. This helped it maintain its political leverage but it played a major role in radicalizing the society. It developed internal feuds, splitting into JUI (F) and JUI (S), the former claiming the lead role. Islamization of the society by General Zia, assisted by Islamist political parties, led to radicalization which in turn ripened into extremism that subsequently bred terrorism. The JUI had to perform a difficult balancing act to synchronize its politics with the rise and subsequent rejection of terrorism by the state and the society. Till recently Maulana Rahman was publicly sympathetic to the cause of the Mujahedeen, then to the Taliban etc on both sides of the Durand Line; however since the attack on APS in Peshawar, terrorism has earned disgrace in society, so the Maulana has artfully changed his rhetoric to suit the times. His actions however betray no change in practice. The two events, the celebrations in April and the 'APC' on February 1 are ample proof of this dichotomy or plain hypocrisy. We elaborate.

The centenary celebrations were designed to show a fair face of the JUI. Even non-Muslim religious leaders were invited to the event. Leaders of PPP and PML-N were asked

toaddress the participants. The Imam Ka'aba and the Saudi minister of religious affairs were invited, as also the Deoband leadership from India. The JUI leadership said the right things to impress all present; for example:

- Muslims, the world over, are wrongly linked to terrorism, violence and intolerance.
- It is a conspiracy to accuse Deoband of militancy and conflict, as this group is committed to democracy, peace and minorities' rights.
- Spiritual progeny of Sheikh ul Hind (Mahmud ul Hassan) follow his philosophy of peace worldwide.
- Local and foreign evil lobbies accuse madrassahs of militancy while these citadels of Islam only protect the Faith.
- Unity and mutual tolerance are a dire need of present times and we must achieve these despite our differences.
- Religion and faith are integral to politics in Pakistan, and liberals and seculars indulge in wishful thinking to break this link.
- All religious political parties should form a joint front. To that end, Siraj-ul-Haq, the JI Amir gave a free hand to Maulana Rahman.

Précis from the daily Islam "Aalami Ijtema", April 17, 2017

Whatever the merit or worth of the above proclamations, let's now recollect the statements and actions of the same leading Maulana and his colleagues in the All Parties Namus Risalat Conference held a few weeks earlier on February 1, 2017 in the Dreamland Hotel of Islamabad.

Those who attended this conference included Fazlur Rahman (JUI), Samiul Haq (JUI-S), Siraj ul Haq (JI), Zafarul Haq (PML-N), Fazlur Rehman Khalil (Ansar ul Ummah), Abdul Khair Zubair (JUP), Kafil Bokhari (Ahrar Islam), Tariq Cheema (PML-Q), Ejaz ul Haq (ML-Zia) etc. Only mulla Allah Wasaya, a cleric of the KN, was present to represent the sponsors. Apparently the stage was handed over to politico-religious leadership to sell their ware in the name of Honour of the Prophet and the End of Prophethood. The 'church' and the 'state' came out, hand in hand, to exploit each other to the full. The proceedings reported in the press made that very clear.

Maulvi Fazl ur Rahman of JUI-F was given the lead role and he read out 'the Declaration'. In this he started off with telling the authorities not to meddle with the blasphemy law 295-C, but then quickly fired all his broadsides on Ahmadiyya targets. He demanded, *inter alia*:

- Qadiani (TV) channels should be banned for their anti-Islam and anti-Pakistan transmissions.
- The decision to change the name of the QA University's Centre for Physics to Dr Abdul Salam Qadiani should be withdrawn.
- Innocent accused Muslims of Dulmial (riot) should be released and action should be taken against officials who were partial against the wronged (Mazloom) Muslims.
- Desist from returning to Qadianis the educational institutions nationalized in the days of Bhutto, etc.

The Conference, having made these demands, conveyed that these were not empty words to be soon forgotten, but would be pursued with further action if they were not implemented within deadline of one month. A 15-member committee was formed to plan and

implement future course of action. The committee comprised leaders of the participating parties as members, while Maulana Fazal ur Rahman would head the committee.

Following opinions were aired in the conference and reported in the vernacular press (for instance the dailies Ausaf and Islam of February 2, 2017):

- Trump has come out openly against Muslims. There is need to unite against him.
- The government proceeds to hang Mumtaz Qadri overnight, but fails to implement court's verdict on Aasia Masih.
- Police cases should be registered against bloggers.
- The disbelievers (*Kafirs*) have given the name 'terrorism' to Jihad.
- We may have our differences with Hafiz Saeed but the government's treatment of him is not appropriate. We are all one on religious issues.
- Qadianis have dug in abroad against Pakistan. They have never been deprived of basic rights here.
- An APC should be called on Chakwal (Ahmadiyya mosque) issue to raise voice in support of wronged Muslims.
- Foreign powers attempt to change (school) syllabi; we'll have to play our role.
- 'End of Prophethood' day should be celebrated every year officially.
- Religious and political parties should jointly resist international pressure.
- We respect the PM, but any violation of Sharia restrictions is not licit. If the Ulama head for Islamabad, all (past) sit-ins would be blurred.
- Religious parties should launch the Nizam Mustafa campaign.
- Any effort to change the blasphemy law will result in violent chaos (fasaad).
- Qadianis are active against the country.

Comparison of what was said in April with what was undertaken on February 1 is interesting, to say the least. It appears that Maulana Fazl ur Rahman has found it convenient to gloss over the Quranic injection: "O ye who believe, why do say what you do not? It is most hateful in the sight of Allah that you say what you do not." (61: 2/3-3/4)

### **False complaint**

Ahmad Abad Sangra, District Chiniot; April 18, 2017: Some menfrom village Khizrkay complained to the police that an Ahmadi, Sultan Ahmad and others were distributing Ahmadiyya literature among public and converting them to Qadianism. As a result two officials of the Counter-terrorism Department came to Sangra and met Mr. Sultan Ahmad. They visited the Ahmadiyya mosque, took some photographs, and posed a few questions. It seems that they found nothing objectionable and went back.

It is noteworthy that the anti-Ahmadi lobby requisitions CTD on fake grounds. They seem to have noted the CTD role in the raid at Ahmadiyya central offices last year.

### Lahore persists in keeping Ahmadis in pressure-cooker

*Lahore, July 2017:* For years now, Lahore is a centre of anti-Ahmadi activities. Religious bigots enjoy direct or indirect support of the administration to keep the pot boiling. Lahore is the city where in year 2010 terrorists shouting *Khatme Nabuwwat - Zindah Baad.* (Long live -

End of Prophethood) killed 86 Ahmadi worshippers at Friday prayers, and the chief minister Shahbaz Sharif decided to not make a condolence or sympathy call on the afflicted community. In fact, the mullas of the official Muttahida Ulama Board have subsequently tightened the noose further on Ahmadis in the Punjab, with the active endorsement of the provincial home department by banning all the written works of the founder of the community. Anyway, the anti-Ahmadi hate campaign goes on at the street level, the administration looking the other way. For example, in July alone:

- ➤ Tahrik Ya Rasul Ullah and Tahrik Sirat Mustaqeem Pakistan organizations held a 40-day course of Recitation and Khatme Nabuwwat at Hanifa and Siddiqua Mosques. Maulvi Khadim Hussain used foul language in the class, against the Ahmadiyya Jamaat.
- A lecture (*dars*) was organized in the Ahle Hadith mosque in Daroghawala, Mughalpura. Qari Yunus Azad, the local *Khatib* (prayer-leader) indulged in diatribe against Ahmadis.
- ➤ The participants of conference on Seerat un Nabi in Al-Saud Hall, Fateh Garh were harangued on the Ahmadiyya issue. This event was also organized by Tahrik Labbaik Ya Rasul Ullah.
- Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN) held a mass meeting on July 13. Mullas Aziz ur Rahman Sani, Qari Aleemuddin, Abdul Shakoor Haqqani, Qari Abdul Aziz and Saeed Waqar were main speakers.

Abdul Shakoor Haqqani said that opposition to the Blasphemy laws is a Jewish and Qadiani agenda. If the authorities make any move in that direction, the AMTKN will defend the Blasphemy laws at all levels. Qari Aleemuddin asserted that they will not allow any conspiracy to succeed that aims at repealing the Blasphemy law. This meeting passed a resolution that the government should effectively stop Qadianis' relief operations as these promote their deception (dajl o fraib).

In addition to the above, AMTKN Gulshan Ravi sector held a meeting on July 16, 2017. Maulvi Mashhud Ahmad presided. The participants were told that the great edifice of worldwide Islam rested on the pillars of End of Prophethood. This dogma is the soul (*Rooh*) of the Islamic principle. Qadianiat is nothing but *Zindiqiat* (worse than apostasy). We'll continue their accountability at all levels. We will tolerate no plot against the Blasphemy law.

# UN demands on Pakistan, and Muttahida Khatme Nabuwwat Movement's response

Lahore; August 7, 2017: The daily Insaf published a story filed by its correspondent reporting the recent proceedings of a UN Human Rights Committee, its demands on Pakistan's religious and anti-Ahmadi laws, political mainstreaming of Ahmadis, and the reaction and comment of a Khatme Nabuwwat leader on the UN Report. English translation of the Insaf report is placed below:

Separate voters' list for Qadianis should be abolished: United Nations

Laws on Blasphemy, Qisas and Diyat should be repealed; homosexuality should be encouraged (sic).

Chenab Nagar (correspondent): Religious parties have rejected the findings of the United Nations Committee on Human Rights and its demand on Pakistan government to remove the Islamic laws from the Constitution. They have stated that these days no foreign power has the right to intervene in internal political and religious affairs of Pakistan. The convener of the Liaison Committee of the Mottahida Khatme Nabuwwat Movement Pakistan, Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema, stated in his response that in the sessions of the HR Committee of the United Nations held on the 11th, 12th July and then on 25th and 26th July, Pakistan was discussed and the demands were made on the Pakistani government to encourage homosexuality, and repeal the laws on Blasphemy, Qisas and Diyat. He said that the 84page report of the UN HR Committee is an indictment of Pakistani laws. The committee requires Pakistan to report within a year the progress of implementation on this report. The Committee has given a deadline that the above-mentioned clauses should be removed or revised from the Constitution of Pakistan by 20th July 2020. He further observed that the decline of the western civilization is so significant that it dictates homosexuality to Muslims. He said that the Committee has expressed most of its reservations on the issue of the Blasphemy law. The influence of the Qadiani lobby is obvious as the demand for doing away with separate voters' list for the Qadianis is repeatedly mentioned in their Report. While severely criticizing PPCs 295 and 298 of the constitution (sic) their immediate repeal is demanded, and if their repeal was not possible, changes should be made to them at the earliest to render them ineffective. In addition, the committee has suggested punishment for anyone who reports any painful incident of Blasphemy and for a complainant of such an FIR. According to him the HR Committee has demanded that the syllabi in educational institutes should be looked into afresh and all texts regarding religious beliefs and Islamic practices should be removed. Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema was of the view that the Muslims believe in preaching and cannot tolerate defiling the person of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) the mercy for all mankind. He urged the government to set aside the issue of Panama leaks, defend the Islamic law undisputed over 1400 years, and formally reject the report and recommendations of the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations. He urged all the leaders of different sects as also leaders of political parties to confront and resist these demands.

# JUI (S) takes pre-emptive action to keep Pakistan Islamist

*Islamabad; August 21, 2017*: Maulvi Sami ul Haq of madrassah Akora Khattak issued an invitation for an All Parties Conference to be held in an Islamabad hotel to deliberate upon the likelihood of repeal or amendment to various so-called Islamic provisions of the Constitution and the law.

As per his invitation letter, "After the disqualification of the former Prime Minister, Art. 62 and 63 of the Constitution are under discussion and various quarters are taking interest in their repeal. It is not a question of only two articles; fifteen years efforts, 1970 -1985, have gone into making the Constitution Islamic. These amendments are not acceptable to the Western, Jewish and Qadiani lobbies, as also to the liberal and secular sections of the country. They would like to open the door of amendments to important clauses like the Blasphemy law, Anti-Qadiani laws, Hadood Ordinance, shifting of the Objectives Resolution in the Constitution proper from its preamble, Separate Electorates, Sharia Court, CII's clear directions to undo 'interest', and limiting the powers of the Supreme Court and other courts in corruption cases, etc...."

Maulana Sami-ul-Haq called the meeting of leading figures of all political and religious parties and groups at 14:30 on August 28, 2017.

It is relevant to mention that this cleric heads the madrassah in Akora Khattak, which was granted Rs. 300 million as aid by the KPK government of Imran Khan's PTI, not long ago.

*Update*: The meeting was held on August 28, as planned. As per press report a number of religious parties' representatives attended – Sh Rashid Ahmad of Lal Haveli was there as well. Jamaat Islami's Siraj ul Haq also addressed the meeting. International political situation relevant to Pakistan–Afghanistan was discussed at par with the agenda for which the meeting was called.

# The government to celebrate 2018 as the Khatme Nabuwwat Year

*Islamabad; December 4, 2017:* The daily Qudrat, Islamabad published the following story:

Afabulous plan by the government for End of Prophethood. The entire next year shall be specific to the cognizance of Khatme Nabuwwat. What the government will do – shall be a good news for Muslims. Islamabad (The daily Qudrat; December 04, 2017): Important declaration by the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Year 2018 shall be celebrated as Cognizance (shu'ure) of Khatme Nabuwwat.

The Ministry will hold celebrations, seminars and conferences on the issues of protection of the end of prophethood and its honour (*Namus Risalat*).

On this issue all efforts will be made, through speeches and writings. The next year, the theme of the Worldwide Seerat Conference on 12 Rabiul Awwal shall be Khatme Nabuwwat Conference. It will be proposed that the writers write papers on the subject of End of Prophethood.

We hold our comments.

#### **Bigotry pervades in Azad Kashmir government**

*Muzaffarbad; December 14, 2017:* The daily Ausaf reported at length some 'resolution' passed by the AJK cabinet. Extracts of this report are translated below; these betray the mindset of the current day rulers of this territory:

Protection of End of Prophethood and Rejection of Qadianiyat will be added to the Interim Constitution

Ethnic cleansing of Kashmiris condemned; appointment of Indian negotiator rejected; Kashmir and Palestine deserve attention of the world community....

Muzaffarabad (Staff Reporter): Among the resolutions passed in the cabinet meeting of Azad Kashmir, in one of these the members of the Assembly were gratefully thanked who, in 1973, voted in favour of the Resolution regarding the *End of the Prophethood* and *Rejection of Qadianiyat* (Radde Qadianiat), thereby earning the honour of passage of that Resolution. The role of Major ® Muhammad Ayub, Member of the Assembly is particularly laudable in moving and steering that resolution...The members further endorsed that the acts and articles contained in the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan will be incorporated, word by word, in the AJK Interim Constitution Act 1974 and other relevant laws. ...

Already the AJK cabinet has approved appointment of a 5-member committee headed by the law minister to propose inclusion word-by-word of Pakistani laws regarding end of prophethood, in Azad Kashmir. ...

The cabinet meeting was held in the Prime Minister's Secretariat under the chairmanship of AJK Prime Minister Mr. Muhammad Faroog Haider Khan. ...

It is noteworthy that while inviting the attention of the whole world to the plight of Kashmiris, the AJK cabinet unabashedly passes resolutions to deny Freedom of Religion and Human Rights to Kashmiri Ahmadis living in Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Rather than

learning a lesson from the experience of Pakistan, these headmen declare openly that they intend not only repeating others' mistakes, they propose the same for the rest of Kashmir they invite to merge.

### Persecution through allegation of being an Ahmadi

There have been numerous cases in the past when mullas and malefactors falsely accused their fellow-Muslims of belonging to Ahmadi denomination, to do them harm – often grievous. One such case was reported in the daily Dawn on November 28, this year. It is reproduced below:

# "Teacher allegedly terminated for being Ahmadi approaches high court

The Lahore High Court issued on Monday a notice to the Punjab secretary of the school education department on a petition by a teacher allegedly terminated for being an Ahmadi.

Shaukat Rauf contented that he had been terminated without being given an opportunity of defense merely on a complaint lodged by a fellow teacher. The petitioner said he was a true Muslim having firm belief in finality of prophethood of Muhammad (PBUH) and had PhD degree in Islamiat.

He pleaded that his point of view was not heard by the authorities in a departmental inquiry, which was in sheer violation of fundamental right of fair trial.

He said the court had directed the respondent secretary to decide his departmental appeal against the termination but the order had not been complied.

The petitioner said the secretary committed contempt of court by not implementing the order and was liable to be punished under the relevant law."

## Update on major atrocities of 2016

- 1. **CTD raid on Ahmadiyya offices on December 5, 2016.** The fake police case registered after the raid was not withdrawn; instead the authorities took it to an Antiterrorism court. Mr. Sabah ul Zafar and Mr. Idrees Ahmad were denied release on bail. The ATC judge announced three years' imprisonment for each of them. An appeal against the verdict lies with Lahore High Court.
- 2. **Mob attack on Ahmadiyya mosque in District Chakwal.** The mosque remains locked by the authorities. Ahmadis have no place for worship for over a year. On demand of the riot leadership, a separate police case was registered against Ahmadis, on orders of a judge. One Ahmadi is still in prison at the end of the year. Sixty rioters out of the 67 detained have been released on bail by courts. Plea for bail of Mr. Muhammad Ansar, Ahmadi awaits hearing at the Supreme Court.
- 3. **Ban on Ahmadiyya publications and periodicals.** The Punjab government issued numerous such notifications early last year. It did that on illegitimate recommendations of the Muttahida Ulama Board that were in stark violation of the Constitutional guarantees, and the international instruments signed by Pakistan. None of these notifications has been yet withdrawn.

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# 6. Anti-Ahmadiyya Rallies; the Hate Campaign

The hate campaign against Ahmadis continued unabated throughout the year despite the National Action Plan. The mullas have told the government to make this activity an exception, and the authorities have conveniently agreed. The Islamabad sit-in provided a great occasion to the mulla, the politician and the media to indulge in anti-Ahmadi rhetoric for weeks. This poisoned the social milieu further for the marginalized community.

It is rather upsetting that the authorities not only fail to put a stop to the blatant hate campaign, they even provide facilities to perpetrate it. Permission isgranted to take out hostile rallies and hold conferences in Rabwah and elsewhere in the name of 'end of prophethood' are indefensible. More than 80 such rallies were held this year countrywide.

The hate campaign goes on not just through rallies but also in print and electronic media. The vernacular press has no qualms publishing blatant anti-Ahmadi statements of clerics. The mullas publish hateful anti-Ahmadi books, brochures and leaflets as well as stickers for free distribution – even for schools.

All these rallies and conferences attended by thousands, spread over days, cost money, as the boarding and lodging are free. Where does the money come from? The authorities know it but permit it, although it is declared assessment at the top that extremism and sectarianism are both poison for Pakistan.

A donkey cart roams on town roads carrying a hateful message on the rear-board and the authorities do not object. The chairman of the official Ulama Board endorses a provocative letter that is sent to Ahmadi businessmen to convert. On T.V. a slanderer accuses Ahmadis of putting on police uniforms and shooting protestors, on behalf of authorities. Lahore, a provincial capital hosts numerous anti-Ahmadi open air meetings. The level of hateful anti-Ahmadi propaganda is mountain high. A reading of this chapter will give some idea of its intensity.

#### **Bigotry and hate-promotion – Pakistan style**

A picture of a donkey cart with a lengthy message written on its back-board went viral in Pakistan on social media. The message is in Urdu; it is anti-Ahmadiyya, a pack of lies, highly abusive and provocative. We attempt its translation below:

A Qadiani is a creature more cunning than a fox, more dangerous than a snake, more shameless than a swine, sheds more false tears than a crocodile, more foolish than a donkey, more coward than a jackal, darker than night, more



ignorant than Abu Jahl, enemy of humankind, a product of Jews, brother of *Dajjal* (Anti-Christ), and a product of falsehood and deceit.

Police officers should be brave like Mehr Nabi Bux Lak.

The drafter of this statement got so carried away by show of prejudice that he cared little for the fact that one who is more cunning than a fox could not be more foolish than a donkey.

The above notice displays that the donkey owner is admirer of some police officer. This officer apparently is quite happy with the publicity he is getting, to the extent that he has not objected to the fellow violating the National Action Plan, all the time, in city streets.

The city administration and police seem to care little for the NAP.

# Major anti-Ahmadiyya conference in Rabwah

Rabwah; 19-20 October 2017: Mullas hold numerous hostile conferences in the headquarters town of the Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan every year. They held one on September 7, 2017. Every time Ahmadiyya officials wrote to the authorities to disallow such hateful conferences in their home-town, but the authorities not only allowed but also facilitated these sectarian rallies. This time again the Ahmadiyya office wrote to the authorities. But the conference was fully facilitated by the authorities. Mullas from all over Pakistan participated in it, including Maulana Fazlur Rahman of JUI-F and Liaquat Baloch of JI. They all made sectarian and hateful speeches against the Ahmadiyya community.

This 36<sup>th</sup> annual Khatme Nabuwwat conference was held in five sessions. All mullas spoke venomously against Ahmadis and their elders. A few excerpts of the speeches are given below:

Jewish lobby wants that all religions in the country avail freedom of preaching; this will disintegrate Muslims... Qadianis are infidels; disgrace is their destiny;universal infidelity is the substance of Mirzai anatomy. ... Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani (Founder of Ahmadiyyat) was a big thief, fraud and the head of the *kufr*. ... Qadianis are basically shameless;Stop dealing with Qadianis and meeting them; this is a *Dajjali* (Anti-Christ) sect; they are the enemies of Islam and traitors to Pakistan and the Muslim people, etc.

Liaquat Baloch (JI) said, "O Qadianio! Listen, we would not let your conspiracy succeed."

Maulvi Ibtisam Ilahi Zaheer, another rabidly anti-Ahmadi mulla, said, "... those who consider Qadianis to be Muslims, are not Muslims... Qadiani sect was set up by the British, only to divide the Muslims... nobody can stop us in the whole world from raising slogans about Qadianis'infidelity...."

Maulvi Fazlur Rahman, president of JUI-F said, "Listen O Qadianis! Our elders have chased you in the past, now we'll do that all overthe world... America and western powers want to demolish our religious institutions ... the government should not oppose us, otherwise we'll confront it from every platform."

Following resolutions were passed at the conference, *inter alia*:

- Qadianis should not be commissioned in Pak Army.
- Sharia punishment for apostasy (death) should be enforced in the country.
- Religion column should be added to the National Identity Card so that it becomes easy for common man to differentiate between a Muslim and a non-Muslim.

• The constitutional amendments (sic) 7B and 7C regarding Qadianis (participation in elections) should be restored in their original format.

The district administration provided wholesome support to the conference. High level security was provided. Approximately 10,000 men were brought over from far and near, most of them from KPK. Free food and accommodation was provided to them. Heavy power generators were deployed. Medical facilities, emergency services were provided. The question is: Who met the costs and how?

Ahmadis were affected to the extent that all schools were closed in the town. Women and children were advised to stay at home. Ahmadi youth had to remain alert to defend against any aggressive move by these hostile visitors. The businesses remained shut. Rabwah looked like a town under siege.

#### Anti-Ahmadi conference in Lahore

*Defense, Lahore; January* 7, 2017: Markazi Jamiat Ahle Hadith Lahore Cantt held a Khatme Nabuwwat conference in Usama Bin Zaid Mosque in Walton Cantt. It had the support of ASF students federation. Qari Muhammad Afzal presided. One, Nawaz Cheema received repeated thanks from the organizers.

The conference started at 7 p.m. and continued till 3 a.m. Sound amplifiers were used. Approximately 400 attended. The speakers, rather than explaining the 'end of prophethood' kept their guns blazing against Ahmadis. They incited the audience with false and fabricated anti-Ahmadi rhetoric. Hateful slogans were raised. Ahmadis were declared to be *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (must be killed).

Ahmadi households, who live in this neighborhood, decided to move away for the night for safety.

Lahore is the capital of the Punjab which has been accused often of acting soft towards religious and sectarian extremists. Most Ahle Hadith groups remain committed to Salafi and Wahabi extremist ideology. They allegedly thrive with nourishing doses of petrodollars, Jamaat Dawa also is an Ahle Hadith faction.

### **Anti-Ahmadiyya conference**

Ganga Pur, Distt. Faisalabad; May 20, 2017: Mullas held 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Tajdare Khatme Nabuwwat conference in Ganga Pur, Distt. Faisalabad. Approximately 800 men who participated in it were mostly outsiders. Mulla Badiuzzaman from Lahore addressed the audience and used foul and hateful language against the Ahmadiyya community.

Ahmadis had requested the police for security. The police were present throughout the rally and ensured that there was no violence.

# Hateful posters stay put in the capital

**Islamabad**; **June 2017**: Even the capital remains in the clutches of religious bigots despite all the policy proclamations, including the National Action Plan. The federal government repeatedly propagates the mantra of rights of minorities and zero tolerance for extremism and terrorism, yet anti-Ahmadi posters remain posted in the city, educating the public communal hate and intolerance.

Pictures of two locations are reproduced below along with English translation of the vernacular messages contained in the posters.



Love of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) demands that we should boycott the Oadianis.

Here no business is done with Qadianis.



# Impure existence of the deniers of Khatme Nabuwwat, Qadianis, is a point of concern for the Muslim community.

Present government has failed to comply with its legal duties regarding Qadianis.

Those Muslims who meet them do not fulfill the requirements of Belief.

Qadianis are spying for pagans in order to win their support.

Let's fulfill our duties by boycotting all the products of the deniers of Khatme e Nabuwwat to avail the intercession of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on doomsday. pre The love of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) demands that we should boycott the Oadianis.

Here no business is done with Qadianis.

#### Anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda in vernacular press

**Rabwah; February 2, 2017**: In general, vernacular press looks for the slightest excuse to indulge in hostile propaganda against the Ahmadiyya community. Its aim is to act as mouthpiece of religious lobby and to wage nasty and vicious propaganda war against the beleaguered and marginalized community. Here, for instance, we refer to a 3-column news

item in the daily Ausaf that accuses Ahmadis of 'spreading fear and chaos in the society and running a state within a state' – a serious charge. We elaborate below.

Rabwah, now renamed Chenab Nagar by official decree against the wishes of its residents, is the national headquarters town of the Ahmadi community in Pakistan. Its population is 95% Ahmadi. As such, it is targeted and remains in the cross-wires of terrorists and religious extremists. The government knows this, and based on its intelligence reports has taken some measures to apparently improve the security of this town. These steps are inadequate, as successful terrorist attacks have occurred here on individuals and congregations. Anyway the authorities have told Ahmadis to take security precautions, and in this the administration and police have urged and sought compliance from the locals to put obstacles in some important streets and block a few entry points from the main inter-city road.

The daily Ausaf finds these minimal security measures highly objectionable, and by giving self-serving twists to facts and on the ground situation it incites its readers against the Ahmadi residents as well as the authorities. Extracts:

Chenab Nagar: Qadianis permanently close down important highways by use of obstacles and barbed wires.

Fear and harassment is spread by closing down free passage in the name of security; it is unlawful to establish a state within a state.

Leave alone (vehicular) traffic, even pedestrian passage has been denied. Most streets within the town have been blocked by installing barriers.

Chenab Nagar: (Special correspondent) Most of the roads in Chenab Nagar have been closed by Qadianis by installation of concrete barriers and barbed wires. Countless streets have been blocked with barriers in the name of security. It is unlawful to block passages by placing obstacles. Visitors from outskirts and both locals and non-locals, once inside, find it extremely difficult to move out. Barriers are boldly marked 'Chenab Nagar Police'... (on and on).

**Note**: If the above is a correct report, residents of Rabwah should be the first to complain. Agreed that a little inconvenience is faced by those few who drive cars and heavy vehicles on two or three streets and three or four entry points, the detour involved is nowhere longer than 500 meters. Surely, the authorities have the powers to implement such measures to improve security. If the Ausaf finds these causing inconveniences to malicious and evil terrorists in their missions, the rag has the freedom to incriminate itself.

#### Anti-Ahmadiyya conferences in Lahore – capital of the Punjab

Numerous anti-Ahmadiyya conferences took place in the capital of the Punjab in the month of September. A few are reported below:

*Mazang; September 10, 2017:* Tahrike Labbaik Ya RasulAllah took out a procession on Luton Road Chowk Janaza Gah, Mazang. Khadim Hussain Razvi led it. He said in his speech that they would not tolerate any change in the blasphemy law and would not let Ahmadis live in the country.

Mughalpura; September 16, 2017: Another Khatme Nabuwwat conference was held in the Jamia Masjid Siddiqa. Pir Shabbir Ahmad Shafiee, Mufti Jamaaluddin Qalandri from Islamabad, Basharat Siddeeq Hazarvi, Saifur Rahman, Haji Muhammad Siddeeq, Mian

Shahzad Ahmad, Muhammad Arshad Naeemi, Qazi Waliur Rahman, and Muhammad Bashir Rizvi addressed the audience. Approximately 250 men attended. The speakers provoked the audience against Ahmadis. They called Ahmadis non-Muslims, and urged a complete social boycott of them. They incited the participants to rise in defense of the End of Prophethood as they were accountable to Allah for that. He put them to shame for not safeguarding it effectively. "Qadianis are *Kafir*; so is the one who meets them, even talks to them," he insisted.

*Mughalpura; September 17, 2017:* Khatme Nabuwwat conference was held at the shrine of Hazrat Shafiee Nizami, Fayyaz Park. Approximately 250 men attended the conference. Maulvis Muhammad Siddeeq Hazarvi, Muhammad Hassan, Zaheer and Ali Kareemi spoke to the participants. As usual they incited them against Ahmadis and used foul language.

The speakers stated that Qadianis were bringing a bad name to Islam. They are supported by the government, while they have no right to live in Pakistan. This country belongs to Muslims. Qadianis will have to be stopped in their mischief. "You should dedicate your lives for the cause of Khatme Nabuwwat. Soon a KN course will be organized," the participants were told.

Ramgarh; September 9, 2017: Tajdare Khatme Nabuwwat conference was held in the Jamia Masjid Madni. It was presided by Allama Mukhtar Haidari. Maulvi Ilyas Attari, Ghulam Abbas and Qadri Shaukat also spoke against the Ahmadiyya community and urged the masses to implement its social boycott.

#### **Violation of the National Action Plan in Lahore**

**Lahore**; **September 2017**: It appears that the mullas and authorities in Lahore have come to an agreement that any violation of the text and spirit of the NAP is admissible, even desirable, so long it is perpetrated against 'Qadianis/Mirzais'.

The night before September 7, banners were put up with this message in Mughalpura Lahore on its main roads:

"Congratulations on Khatme Nabuwwat Defence Day. On September 7, Mirzai Qadianis were declared *Kafir* (infidels)unanimously."

On September 7, Jamiat Ulama Pakistan led a motorcycle rally from the Quaid-e-Azam interchange to Data Darbar in Lahore. Approximately 100 motorcycles, carrying 2 to 3 men each were there. The rally was led by Pir Rashid Hussain, Syed Maqbool Shah, Muhammad Ali Kareemi, Pir Shuaib Hussain and Pir Rehmat Ali. Participants carried banners and posters with inscriptions: "Long live – Jamaat Ahl-e-Sunnat. Qadiani *Kafir Kafir* (infidels). Long live – Conqueror of Mirzaiat, Imam Al-Shah Ahmad Noorani. Congratulations to all Muslims on Khatme Nabuwwat Defence Day. Boycott Qadiani products. A friend of a Qadiani is a confirmed traitor."

An anti-Ahmadiyya conferencewas held in Jamia Masjid Anware Medina, Lahore as well, in commemoration of September 7. Approximately 175 attended. Qari Shaukat Qadri used foul language against the Ahmadiyya community and exhorted the audience to boycott Qadianis as 'they are busy in destroying the beloved country and Islam'. "Our forefathers sacrificed a lot to have them declared infidels; now it is our responsibility to protect Islam from them. They should be boycotted and socially isolated", he added.

# 'Kosher' to persecute a 'Qadiani' for no reason

An incident reported in the daily Dawn of September 14, 2017 shows the extent the mulla and the state have succeeded in sanction of violation of human rights of Ahmadis in Pakistan. It has become sufficient to simply accuse a person of being an Ahmadi to justify his persecution. The report from the Dawn is reproduced below:

# Faisal Mosque official 'target of incitement campaign'

*ISLAMABAD:* Amid growing concerns regarding the radicalization of students, especially in the aftermath of the tragic lynching of Mashal Khan, the issue of extremist activities on campuses has acquired renewed significance.

On Wednesday, another worrying incident came to light when a senior Faisal Mosque official alleged that he had been made the target of a concerted smear campaign that had declared him to be 'Qadiani' – a pejorative term for Ahmadis – on social media.

Speaking before the Senate Standing Committee on Interior, Mosque Deputy Director Mohammad Tahir accused a staff member of the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) of engineering the campaign, which instigated some 30,000 students to cause him physical harm.

The committee, chaired by Senator Rehman Malik, directed Senior Superintendent of Police Sajid Kiani to take the matter seriously and ensure the security of the complainant.

However, IIUI Rector Dr Masoom Yasinzai told Dawn he had taken up the issue with the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and an explanation was sought from the staffer in question, who had denied involvement in any campaign against Mr. Tahir.

Talking to Dawn, Dr Masoom Yasinzai said the issue surfaced when the university learnt that CDA wanted to take control of the mosque. Briefing the committee, Mr. Tahir also claimed that on July 25, he had told a parliamentary committee that the IIUI still occupied offices inside the Faisal Mosque premises.

"Following my appearance, an IIUI staffer declared me to be 'Qadiani' and extolled the 30,000 students of the university to not tolerate it. Since then, I have been feeling insecure with students' demeanour towards me. I can say on oath that I am a Muslim, but no one believes me," he said.

Mr. Tahir said he had complained to both police and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). Senator Malik said it was unfortunate that students were being instigated to take action against an individual who had been declared a 'Qadiani' for personal gains, and asked the FIA about progress in the case....

Dr Jehanzeb Jamaldini of the Balochistan National Party – Mengal (BNP-M) said it had become a trend to accuse people of being 'Qadiani' to attain personal motives.

PML-N Senator Javed Abbasi recalled that a similar case was built against Mashal Khan of Abdul Wali Khan University in Mardan, who was subsequently murdered....

Imagine the plight of those who are actually Ahmadis and have to bear up with it 7 days a week, 24 hours a day – all their life.

# Anti-Ahmadiyya pamphlet endorsed by Chairman Ulama Board Punjab circulated

Faisalabad; December 2017: Ahmadi businessmen in Faisalabad, Sialkot, Islamabad and other cities received an Anti-Ahmadiyya pamphlet titled: An invitation to Qadianis to

**recant**. It is authored by Maulvi Muhibullah of Khanqa Sirajia Saadia Nakshbandia, Loralai, Balochistan. Abusive language is used in it against the founder of the Ahmadiyya community. An endorsement letter from Maulvi Fazal Raheem Ashrafi, the chairman of Muttahida Ulama Board of Punjab government is added to it, which declares it fulfillment of an obligation on behalf of all the major institutions of Pakistan. Thus the chairman, who gets his allowances and perks from public funds, has made the government a party to fanning fires of religious extremism and hatred, in gross violation of the National Action Plan.

### Mulla-led processions in the Ahmadiyya headquarters town

**Rabwah**; **December 1, 2017**: Mullas took out three different processions in Rabwah (Ahmadiyya national headquarters) at the occasion of 12 Rabi-ul-Awwal (birthday of the Holy Prophet PBUH). The administration had permitted these processions who behaved provocatively. Ahmadis had to exercise vigilance and remain on guard.

The first procession was led by Mulla Umair Arshad from Masjid Bukhari at 09:45 a.m. Approximately 100 persons participated in it, mostly boys. It reached the Aqsa Square via the bus stop and returned to the bus stop. The mullas addressed the crowd in the Aqsa Square, the centre of the town. Participants were holding the banners of Tahrike Labbaik Yarasulullah (TLY of the Islamabad sit-in fame).

The second procession was led by Mulla Rizwan from Khichian at 11:30 a.m. It passed through the Aqsa Square and met the first procession at the bus stop. Approximately 200 men participated in it. Some outsiders from Chiniot and suburbs also joined it. They were also carrying banners of TLY.

Majlis Ahrar (an anti-Ahmadiyya organization) held its annual Khatme Nabuwwat conference in the Madrassa Ahrarul Islam in Kot Wasawa at the outskirts of Rabwah. The conference started at 11:45 a.m. and ended at 1:40 p.m. It was presided over by Syed Ataul Muhaiman Shah Bukhari, Central Amir of Majlis Ahrar Pakistan. Approximately 1000 men participated in it. Mulla Ubaidullah of Toba Tek Singh, Sultan Muaviya of Khanewal, Syed Muhammad Muaviya of Chichawatni, Muhammad Zakariya of Faisalabad, Hafiz Hamdullah (a JUI-F senator) addressed the crowd.

These mullas spoke venomously against the Ahmadiyya community; some quotes: "Qadiani is a community of mischief... Qadianio! Listen, you have robbed the Khatme Nabuwwat (End of Prophethood), come to the right path...Why does the Operation *Raddul Fassad* spare Qadianis? Qadianis do not obey the constitution and are busy, in and outside the country, in conspiracies against the country and the constitution...."

They took out this procession after the Friday prayers. It was the third and the largest procession in Rabwah. It passed through the Aqsa Square and arrived at the bus stop. On their way they stopped in front of Aiwane Mahmood (central offices of Ahmadiyya youth in Pakistan) and made fiery speeches against the Ahmadiyya community. Mullas Ilyas Chinioti MPA (PML-N), Muhammad Mugira, Abdul Lateef Khalid Cheema, Muhammad Syed Kafeel Shah Bukhari, Syed Ataul Muhaiman Shah Bukhari and Shahid Kashmiri of Lahore addressed the participants. They exhorted, "Qadiani are the mischief created by Jews and Christians. National Assembly has declared them non-Muslims ... We are the heirs of 13000 martyrs who died in defense of End of Prophethood."

(Note: By this they referred to the anti-Ahmadiyya agitation of 1953 in the Punjab; a high-level judicial inquiry counted the dead rioters as 37.)

It reached the bus stop at 4:00 p.m. and dispersed from there.

Ahmadis remained on guard all day. Ahmadi youth were deployed on security duties, while women were advised to stay at home. The whole town remained like under siege.

#### **Another hostile conference in Rabwah**

Rabwah; December 8, 2017: Just one week after inflicting three processions on Rabwah, the Khatme Nabuwwat organization held another anti-Ahmadiyya conference in Jamia Masjid Muhammadia at the railway station, Rabwah. It started at 1:10 p.m. and ended at 2:40 p.m. It was presided over by Maulvi Ghulam Mustafa, incharge of Jamia Arabia, Muslim Colony. Approximately 250 men participated in it. Maulvi Muhammad Ismail of Aalami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat from Multan also spoke in it. They badmouthed Ahmadis and their elders. They provoked the audience against the Ahmadiyya community with tons of slander and disinformation. A mulla came up with, "We have never even thrown a stone at a Qadianis' house nor irritated (cherna) them."

### Profusion of hateful banners in the provincial capital of Punjab

*Lahore; October 2017:* Anti-Ahmadi hateful and abusive banners were put up or displayed by miscreants in Lahore. Those hung in main streets were there for weeks. We reproduce photos of some of these, and translate the vernacular texts written on them.

1. This location is a street in Township. The message on the banner means: "Whoever befriends a Qadiani is a traitor to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Qadianis are enemies of our religion and our country."



2. This banner (on next page) was displayed in Ferozpur Road area in Lahore. It conveys: "We support our Sunni brothers participating in the sit-in in Islamabad. We strongly condemn state tyranny. Countless curses on Mirzais and officials who support them. Mirzais and their supporters are bastards, bastards. One who does not call a *kafir*, a *kafir*, is a *kafir*."



3. This banner (below) was put up on Shalimar Link Rd in Lahore. It conveys: "Qadianis and Blasphemers are hypocrites, infidels, but they are not of us (*sic*). Haji Mansur Hussain, Alam Khan, Muhammad Azhar Chaudhary, Muhammad Bashir Malik."



4. This photo of the banner and activists is of TLY. It carries: "We support the belief in Safeguarding the End of Prophethood. Qadianis Mirzais are the worst infidels in the world. From: Haji Dr Rauf (PP 165), TLY and (*unreadable*) PP 165 TLY."



#### Hate promoted through law and religious authority

Lahore: Kot Abdul Maalik is a neighbourhood on the northern outskirts of Lahore. Some mullas have formed an association there and call themselves a branch of the Anjuman Muhibban Khatme Nabuwwat Pakistan (League of the lovers of the end of prophethood). As activists they seem to outdo others in promotion of anti-Ahmadi hate and animosity. Recently they published a set of stickers for general distribution. We produce their photos and translate here the text written on them.

1.



Mirzait (Ahmadiyyat) in the light of Constitution (sic) of 1973

# (298-C Pakistan Penal Code)

No member of the Qadiani group can call himself Muslim nor can he propogate or preach his religion. If any member of the Lahori or Qadiani group directly or indirectly poses as Muslim or calls his religion to be Islam or if he spreads or preaches his religion or invites others to his religion or if he hurts religious feelings and sentiments of Muslims, he will be sentenced to imprisonment of 3 years and fine.

And this crime is not bailable.

2.



# Fatwa of His Holiness Hadhrat Maulana Ahmad Raza Khan Brelvi regarding Mirzais (Ahmadis) and Mirzai supporters

Mirzais are apostates and infidels. Contacts with Mirzais, be it participating in their happiness or sadness, business relationship, friendship with them of any type, all are strictly illicit. If any so-called Muslim considers any Qadiani to be oppressed because of the boycott, he is an infidel himself.

(Ahkam Shariah p.112; His Holiness Hadhart Maulana Ahmed Raza Khan Brelvi r.a.)

3.



Those active against the Qadiani Mischief have the blessed hand of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) on their backs.

(Edict of the Khatm e Nabuwwat Mujahid, the Conqueror of Mirzait, Hadhrat Peer Mehr Ali Shah Golarwi)

Association of the Patriots of Khatm e Nabuwwat Pakistan

Kot Abdul Maalik branch

 www. Khatm-e-nabuwwat.org
 0333-4664080

 www.facebook.com/amkn2010
 0341-4040568

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 0300-4856384

#### **Curses all over**

It seems that Ahmadi-bashers enjoy using abusive language against Ahmadis and their leaders. They avail of the permissive attitude of the authorities and indulge in foul jibes against Ahmadi holy personages. These half-wits and their elders do not realise that this exercise only exposes the perpetrators rather than their targets.

Below we print two photos of curses spray-painted on a door and on foot-steps. These target the holy founder of Ahmadiyyat.





Countless curses on Mirza

Curse on Mirza

The above reflects on authorities who take no legal action against these miscreants. The law (PPC 295-A) prescribes 10 years' imprisonment for those who indulge in "deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs."

### Many facets of hate mongering

Organisations committed to anti-Ahmadiyya aims openly use all sorts of means to spread hate among the masses. They demanded, and now presume permission, even encouragement of the government, to their hate mongering, despite the law and the declared policies like the National Action Plan. Some of their actions are manifestly in the domain of promotion of terrorism. We mention below only four cases along with photographic evidence made available in annexes.

- 1. In a bazaar in Sialkot, they dug up and piled up dirt to simulate graves. As tombstones, they put up anti-Ahmadi expressions. Similar expressions were posted in the vicinity. These carried the following messages:
  - One who is a friend of Qadianis, is infidel, infidel indeed.
  - One who denies the Prophet, is an enemy of Islam.
  - We salute declaring the Qadiani dogs as Non-Muslims.
  - Even death is acceptable in the slavery of the Prophet (P B U H). If there is no love of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) this life is waste.

# Tajdar e Khatm e Nabuat - Long live

A photo of this is available at Annex VII.

2. They produced a one-page pamphlet, titled: **Qadianis are the worst** *Kafir* (infidels) of the world. The opening pera introduced the subject as below:

#### Qadianis are the worst infidels of the world

A list of Qadiani companies, products, doctors, hospitals, lawyers, and others who are employees of the Pakistan government, as also of TV and newspaper journalists should be prepared, so that, these Qadianis and pro-Mirzais could be boycotted in social, political, communal and financial fields. Their lives should be made unbearable in this sacred land of Pakistan.

This is followed by a list of some companies, industrial products and business houses presumably owned by Ahmadis.

The pamphlet is reproduced in Annex VIII.

3. Shubban Khatme Nabuwwat published another one-pageleaflet agitating the common man against Ahmadis through challenge to his love for the Holy Prophet. They titled it: Can we not do even this for the love of the Prophet (Ishqe Mustafa)? The leaflet warns the reader that by consuming Ahmadiyya products he is filling his own and his family's tummies with hellfire. It fraudulently attributes a belief to Ahmadis that they consider 'Mirza Ghulam Qadiani' to be the last prophet, etc. It lists some Ahmadiyya industrial products and services. The producer has printed his name boldly on the leaflet and given his phone numbers and website address. He knows that the authorities would surely not hold him accountable for violating the law.

The leaflet is reproduced at Annex IX. Translation of its text is also provided.

4. A Khatme Nabuwwat organisation (address not readable) produced a poster for the convenience of bigots who would paste it on their door fronts telling visitors that 'Mirzais are strictly prohibited from entering our home'. The house is provided a name as well: KHATME NABWWAT MANZIL. The poster carries numerous pious phrases in addition to the dome and minaret of the Prophet's mosque in Medina.

The poster is reproduced at Annex X.

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### Le Contrat Social of the Pakistani State

**So said the Founding Father:** The minorities in Pakistan will be the citizens of Pakistan and enjoy all the rights, privileges and obligations of citizenship without any distinction of caste, creed or sect. They will be treated justly and fairly. The Government will run the administration and control the legislative measures by its Parliament, and the collective conscience of the Parliament itself will be a guarantee that the minorities need not have any apprehension of any injustice being done to them. Over and above that there will be provisions for the protection and safeguard of the minorities which in my opinion must be embodied in the constitution itself. And this will leave no doubt as to the fundamental rights of the citizens, protection of religion and faith of every section, freedom of thought and protection of their cultural and social life." p.845, Zaidi, ZH (ed) (1993) Jinnah Papers: Prelude to Pakistan, Vol. I Part I. Lahore: Quaid-i-Azam Papers Project

"We stand by our declarations that members of every community will be treated as citizens of Pakistan with equal rights and privileges and obligations and that Minorities will be safeguarded and protected." March 23, 1948 speaking to Schedule Caste Federation, Page 154 Jinnah Speeches and Statements 1947-1948, Oxford 1997

# 7. The Judiciary's role

On the Ahmadiyya issue, thirty years ago the judiciary endorsed the unjust and harmful anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX of General Zia, that prescribes imprisonment and fine against Ahmadis who 'pose' to be Muslims.

The judiciary in Pakistan continues to play its role generally in line with the state's commitment to the persecution of Ahmadis. While some judges have admittedly upheld justice and provided relief to some Ahmadi victims, magistrates and lower judiciary, and sometimes even the high court and supreme court judges have not been mindful of the plight of members of this marginalized community. Bails are often refused to the accused and they have to rot for weeks, even months and years in jail before they get relief in a higher court. A number of such cases are mentioned in chapter 3 of this report. Lower courts including the sessions mostly find it convenient to placate the mullas who throng the court room during the trial. Cases are on record where even at high court level, judges have visibly and unabashedly yielded to the howling mullas and lawyers.

In this chapter sample cases are mentioned where judges gave decisions and indulged in conduct that did not promote the cause of justice. For instance On October 11, 2017 three Ahmadis who allegedly tore an anti-Ahmadi poster were sentenced to death after remaining behind bars for three and half years. IHC Judge Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui ordered cancellation of all the amendments in sections relevant to the End of Prophethood in the Election Act 2017; these had facilitated Ahmadis' participation in national elections.

#### Three Ahmadis, innocent of any blasphemy, sentenced to death

Bhoiwal, District Sheikhupura; October 11, 2017: Three Ahmadis, Mr. Mubashir Ahmad, Mr. Ghulam Ahmad and Mr. Ihsan Ahmad of Bhoiwal were sentenced to death by a judge Muhammad Akram in Ferozwala.

Four Ahmadis, three mentioned above and Mr. Khalil Ahmad were charged under PPC 295-A, 337/2 and 427 allegedly for tearing an anti-Ahmadiyya sticker/pamphlet on May 12, 2014. Mr. Khalil Ahmad was killed two days later while in police custody. A year later, at the request of the opponent party a high court judge added deadly clause PPC 295-C to the charge-sheet on March 9, 2015. Their pleas for release on bail were rejected at all levels, even by the Supreme Court. At the Supreme Court the plea for bail was heard by a bench comprising Justices Manzoor A. Malik, Sardar Tariq Masood and Mazhar Sher.

Now they have been sentenced to death after remaining behind bars for three and half years. The madrassah student who murdered the Ahmadi in police custody was arrested on the spot; however he has yet to be pronounced 'guilty'.

### A high court judge reacts to blasphemy postings

*Islamabad*: The daily Dunya posted the following reports in its issue of March 10, 2017. Extracts:

Pass the blasphemy material to the Prime Minister. We'll call his presence here in case of no follow-up: Justice Shaukat Siddiqui (of Islamabad High Court)

The judge said, "... This issue is not specific with Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui; the entire Pakistani judiciary is the guardian of the Prophet's honour. It was protecting this honour. In this context if no action is taken at the higher level, we'll send for the Prime Minister. We are involved in spurious issues, while in my opinion this is the greatest issue in Pakistan. Unfortunately, the executive has failed to take action in this regard. The Parliament is also silent over it. This is most regrettable. I do not know how do they sleep at night. Having seen and heard this, federal secretaries, I do not order you, I implore you to do something to safeguard the honour of Allah's prophet. You have enjoyed the perks of service long enough, now you ought to do something worthwhile to please Allah and His messenger. This is the real stuff; all else is futile. Now is the time when there should be no other campaign except antiblasphemers and anti-cursed. At the beginning of the hearing the Federal Secretary of Interior, Arif Khan stated that a case under PPC 295-C and other clauses of the penal code has been registered against those involved on social media in blasphemy against the most holy person in the universe....

Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddigui observed that attention should be paid to two factors. First, all blasphemous pages should be blocked; second action should be taken as per law against the perpetrators. I say it again, if that cannot be done then, I'll order blockage of the entire social media. Social media is blocked in many countries. If it is blocked here, we'll still survive. If this court had not acted, this practice would have continued, but as Muslim, such blasphemy is intolerable. Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddigui expressed displeasure over the absence of federal secretaries for I.T. and Information. He ordered the registrar to telephone the two secretaries to present themselves in the court within half an hour or face warrants of arrest. At this the court was adjourned for half hour. When the hearing resumed both the secretaries of I.T. and Information were present in the court. Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui passed some blasphemous material to the federal secretary. At this stage, Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui started sobbing profusely. At this, others present in the court started shedding tears. Shedding tears, Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui asked the federal secretary, Arif Sahib, "What else is left after this?" At this the Federal Secretary of Interior also wept and said, "If the court had not ordered, I would not even cast a glance at it. At this, once again tears came to the eyes of Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddigui, and he addressed the three secretaries, "I do not order you, I plead you to do something to protect the honour of the Prophet of Allah, for God's sake....

At this stage, Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui addressed the Secretary of Interior, "I repeat once again that those individuals should not be in the investigating team, who have been declared Non-Muslims in the Constitution of Pakistan, as these people are themselves involved in this despicable act. The hearing was then postponed till Monday." (Emphasis added)

### Remarks of a judge concerning Ahmadis

Justice Shaukat Siddiqui of Islamabad High Court was reported in the press as follows:

IHC restores all 8 laws concerning the end of prophethood.

If heavens fall, I do not care: Justice Siddiqui

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, November 15, 2017

(Maulvi) Wasaya also asked the government setup a database of government employees belonging to the Ahmadi faith....

The judge (Shaukat Siddiqui – ed.) also asked the federal government to submit a reply regarding the request for a database within 14 days.

The daily Dawn, Lahore; November 14, 2017

Justice Siddiqui also directed authorities to initiate criminal cases against those committing blasphemy and to form a joint investigation team (JIT) to look into the matter, adding that those "who do not fulfill the criteria under the law to be a Muslim should not be made a part of the whole process."

The daily The Express Tribune, Lahore; March 9, 2017

He claimed that he knew those who had made Qadianis their 'darling'.

Editorial of the daily Mashriq, Lahore; November 28, 2017

# Ahmadis discriminated through special data-base in official records

*Islamabad; November 24, 2017:* The daily Jang, Karachi carried the following story (translated):

#### Work started on data-base of senior Qadiani officials in the Federation

Islamabad (Rana Ghulam Qadir, news reporter): It is learnt that the Establishment Division is preparing a list of Qadiani officials and those who belong to the Lahori group working for the federal government. The report is being prepared to be submitted to the Islamabad High Court. Maulana Allah Wasaya (an End of Prophethood activist) had challenged unlawful and unconstitutional activities of the Qadianis and the Lahori group (sic). The case date is now set for 29 November. The Deputy Secretary (Litigation) Muhammad Afzal Chaudhari has told Senior Joint Secretary Admin Establishment Division and the Joint Secretary E-Wing to prepare the list by 27 November for presentation to the high court. They have been told to also mention the assignments of the officials. The High court had instructed the Establishment Division during the hearing on November 14 to prepare data-base of Qadiani and Lahori group officials serving in high posts.

No comments.

#### Other cases

In addition to the above stories, there were other noteworthy occasions when Ahmadi accused were sentenced or their bails were refused. These have been described elsewhere in this report; these are referred here very briefly.

- 1. A trial court sentenced Mr. Q A Tahir to imprisonment for life on a blasphemy charge of defiling the Quran. It was a false accusation. On appeal, a High Court judge acquitted him, and he was set free after having already spent 21 months in prison. (See p. 36)
- 2. Two Ahmadis, innocent of any wrong-doing, were sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment by an Anti-terrorism court. They were fined Rs. 50,000 under each section. (See p. 36)
- 3. A violent mob attacked Ahmadiyya mosque in District Chakwal. The riot resulted in death of two men, one Ahmadi and the other non-Ahmadi. The police booked a number of rioters and the defenders in one joint case. However, the mullas demanded that Ahmadis be booked in a separate case as well. A judge ordered the police to do that. (See p. 39)
- 4. Two Ahmadis in Lahore were booked on a spurious charge of preaching. Although the police were not willing to press the charges, a judge told them to register the case. They were arrested. A sessions judge refused the bail. The High Court has not found time to hear their plea. They are in prison since March 2017. (See p. 39)
- 5. A judge fined an Ahmadi Rs. 50,000 for not taking adequate measures to protect the Ahmadiyya mosque. (See p. 42)

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# 8. Miscellaneous; Reports from all over

Reports that do not fit in any category of previous chapters are placed here in the following sections:

- a) Reports from cities
- b) Reports from towns and villages
- c) Media
- d) Disturbing threats
- e) Diverse

This chapter contains stories that are varied, intriguing even diverting. For variety, for instance, we have: a) A woman is harassed in bazar after being recognized as Ahmadi, b) A hospital announces that it offers treatment to Muslims (only) and provides instructions on 'end of prophethood', c) Non-representative City Council raises taxes by 100% in the Ahmadiyya town of Rabwah, d) A leading politician threatens death to those who 'fiddle' with law on 'end of prophethood', e) A leading madrassah issues edict that a pregnant Muslim woman should not consult an Ahmadi lady doctor, f) Secretary Tillerson considers religious freedom under attack in Pakistan. For these and many more stories, this chapter provides essential information.

#### a) Reports from cities

#### Ahmadi lady harassed in market

**Lahore**; April 8, 2017: Mr. Basharat Ahmad and his wife live in Defence area. They went to DHA shopping centre. Due to the rush in the market Mr. Ahmad dropped his wife near a shop, and proceeded to park his car at some distance.

As soon as Mrs. Ahmad disembarked from the car, she was intercepted by a car from the opposite direction in which a bearded man asked her if she was a Mirzai. He showed her a photo of the fourth caliph of the Ahmadiyya community and asked if she knew him. He asked for the caliph's address. She ignored him and started walking towards the shop. He came again after making a U turn and indulged in badmouthing the caliph. Some people gathered at the spot, but nobody came forward to stop him and support her. She hurried into the shop, and the trouble-maker went away. The idiot was ignorant that Khalifa tul Masih IV had died in London 14 years ago.

The lady felt harassed and vulnerable.

#### **Persecution in Nankana**

*Jhangar Hakamwala, Distt. Nankana:* Rai Muhammad Afzal, Ahmadi has faced persecution since 2013. He is a school teacher by profession. In the month of Ramzan in 2013 mullas implemented his social boycott and announced from loudspeakers in mosques that all

social ties with him were *haram* (illicit); even exchange of greetings was not permissible with him. Thereafter threats to his life were conveyed. He had to shift elsewhere, but returned after sometime. One night some attackers entered his house, threatened him and his family for life and told him to quit the Ahmadiyya community or expect a follow-up visit. They departed having looted some cash and gold ornaments.

Mr. Afzal shifted to Nankana city in the face of severe hostility in his village. When the administration of the school came to know the religious identity of his son, they sent for Mr. Afzal and told him to leave the community or get his son enrolled in another school. He opted for the latter.

Ahmadis are facing hardships in Nankana. Approximately 90% shops carry this warning: "Entrance of Qadianis (Ahmadis) is prohibited." This hostility has become worse in the city after the recent murder of Mr. Saleem Latif an Ahmadi lawyer.

#### Harassment of a 'convert'

*Okhali Mohla, District Khushab*: Mr. Muhammad Zaman of this village joined the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in 2015. He, however, kept the joining confidential. Later, his father, Abdullah came to suspect that, and he sent for the local mulla.

The mulla talked to Mr. Zaman and slapped him couple of times during the interview. He also carried out a search of Zaman's room; there he found nothing of his interest. The mulla told Zaman to present himself before Maulvi Zafar ul Haq in Bandial the next day for inquiry, or face consequences.

Bandial is a centre of anti-Ahmadi activists who enjoy support of local lords. Zaman informed the president of the Ahmadi community Chak 2 TDA who visited him in Okhali Mohla. Under the circumstances, Zaman decided to flee from his village. This agitated his opponents further and they initiated a search for him.

On advice of mullas, Zaman's father had an ad published in a local newspaper wherein he declared depriving Zaman of all inheritance. He also announced a complete boycott with Zaman on account of his 'apostasy'.

Zaman has apparently decided to stay away from hisvillage.

#### **Problems at work**

*Lahore;* 2017: Mr. Abrar Ahmad, Ahmadi, is facing difficulties and loss of well-deserved benefits at his work place, only for his faith. He is employed as a manager in Saira Memorial Hospital, Model Town, Lahore.

Dr Aasim, a senior member of the hospital's Board of Trustees took him and presented him to the CEO. There he told the CEO, "This chap is a Mirzai, a *kafir*; why have we employed him?" When Mr. Abrar attempted a response, the doctor pulled him by the arm and said, "You know that you have given in writing that you are an Ahmadi!" "Yes, I am an Ahmadi; and that is what I would declare. Why should I tell a lie for holding on to a job?" replied Mr. Abrar. Dr Aasim did not like the honest reply and blurted, "If I had the powers, I would fire you." Then he indulged in bad-mouthing the Ahmadiyya community.

Mr. Abrar has not been granted medical benefits and some other service privileges for the last four years. Every time he is told, "Dr Aasim does not agree."

# Terrorism suspect arrested in Muslim Colony, Rabwah Major attack averted

**Rabwah:** The daily Din, Lahore of March 6, 2017 published the followed report:

"CTD action: Chenab Nagar spared extensive destruction. Terrorist arrested.

Plenty of explosive material recovered from Amir Niazi, the accused who was taken away to an unknown location.

**Chenab Nagar (Correspondent)**: CTD arrested a man in possession of large quantity of explosives. As per details, CTD District Chiniot arrested a man near Chenab Park in Muslim Colony. He was in possession of ½ kilo explosives, liquid material, four non-electric detonators and eight safety fuses, all this in a computer box. As per sources, the 35-years old man was recognized as Amir Khan Niazi, resident of Mianwali. Security agents shifted him to an unknown location for further investigation. According to the Bomb Squad, this timely action has saved Chenab Nagar from a catastrophe. We are informed that all the recovered stuff was meant for a major terrorist attempt."

We, in the past, have repeatedly hinted in various reports a liaison between the Khatme Nabuwwat leadership and extremism/terrorism. The evidence is known to state agencies; however media report of smoking-gun evidence has come out with this arrest.

This news was reported by vernacular newspapers; however, most of them added opinion to the facts, in an effort to distance the religious leadership, resident at Muslim Colony, from the accused. Some reported that the accused was arrested from a hotel in the Colony. In fact, there is no hotel in the Muslim Colony; there is only a PTDC restaurant. Others reported that the accused's arrest from the Muslim Colony means that the mosque and seminary in the Colony were his targets. That is ridiculous. Surely, the investigating agencies are better informed of the hideous plan of the terrorist and his felicitators and sponsors.

# A sectarian hospital

**Sargodha**: While there is nothing wrong with a sect or a religious group running a hospital, what is odd is the fact that it should sell its services to only specific sectarian groups and indulge in hostile propaganda against other hospitals run by some targeted community.

Khatam an Nabiyyeen Medical Heart Centre in Lakkar Mandi, Sargodha has issued publicity notices to promote its business, with noteworthy content. Extracts:

Under the management of: Khatam an Nabiyyeen Trust (Registered) Khatme Nabuwwat Academy, Lakkar Mandi, Sargodha.

Protect your faith and money from burglars of faith. While we put in the effort, Muslims (are requested) to co-operate.

Remember that this enterprise is purely ideological. Muslims are provided facilities of medical treatment here; also they are tutored in the dogma of End of Prophethood.

Note: Qadianis have a renowned hospital (Tahir Heart Centre) in Chenab Nagar. It is illicit (*Haram*) and a great sin (*Gunahe Kabirah*) to visit their hospital for any check-up and treatment.

Chairman Khataman Nabiyyeen Trust: Hafiz Muhammad Akram Toofani

This sectarian pamphlet is for the public; the authorities know about it but it is fair to assume that they have done little to dissuade its originators from its circulation.

#### **Exorbitant rise in municipal taxes proposed for Rabwah**

Rabwah (Chenab Nagar); April 29, 2017: It is common knowledge that since long Ahmadis have been denied the right to contest elections and to vote for their representatives in elections including those of the Local Government. As a result, Ahmadis who form overwhelming majority in the municipal limits of Chenab Nagar have no representation in the local council. This shows up in taxation policy which betrays a callous and heartless attitude of the administration towards the residents of this town.

The above manifested itself in this year's proposed municipal Tax Schedule published in the daily Dunya of April 29, 2017. The rates proposed are a huge jump over the last year, to the extent of being almost unbelievable. An increase of 10 percent, even 15, is understandable and perhaps justifiable, but a one-hundred percent increase shows that the councilors and the chairman of the committee have little concern with the paying capacity of the residents or the rationale of the tax regime. They seem to declare that they do not care, as they do not look forward to re-election on support of votes of Ahmadi residents of this town.

We reproduce below the schedule of proposed increase in some taxes from the Public Notice issued in the daily Dunya:

Tax description	Present rate	Proposed rate	Increase percentage (Not published)
Residential water tax	Rs. 150 p.m.	Rs. 300 p.m.	100%
Commercial water	Rs. 400 p.m.	Rs. 800 p.m.	100%
tax	Ks. 400 p.m.	Ks. 600 p.m.	10070
Connection fee (Res)	Rs. 500	Rs. 1000	100%
Lemon factory	Rs. 2000 p.a.	Rs. 3000 p.a.	50%
Tea stall	Rs. 1000 p.a.	Rs. 1500 p.a.	50%
Pakwan center	Rs. 1500 p.a.	Rs. 3000 p.a.	100%
Sweet point	Rs. 1500 p.a.	Rs. 2500 p.a.	66%
Food point	Rs. 2000 p.a.	Rs. 3000 p.a.	50%
Meat seller	Rs. 1000 p.a.	Rs 1800 p.a.	80%
H.P. or Yunani	Rs. 400 p.a.	Rs. 800 p.a.	100%
medical store			
Repairs by welding	Rs. 200 p.a.	Rs. 300 p.a.	50%
NOC for petrol pump	Rs. 20,000/-	Rs. 40,000/-	100%
NOC for gas meter	Rs. 300/-	Rs. 500/-	66%

etc; etc.

#### **Trouble for Ahmadis in Quetta**

*Quetta; April 2017:* Malik Farhan Ahmad Zafar and his family faced hostility and problems at the hands of a former neighbour. He made a fake page on Facebook with the name, "Rameen Malik and placed Mr. Zafar and his brothers' photos on the Facebook along with the note, "These people are converting credulous Sunni brothers to Qadianiat deceitfully. Beware of them. They are blasphemers."

Mr. Zafar was abroad while his two brothers live in Dulmial, District Chakwal, Punjab and two others were in Quetta. They have been advised to exercise caution. A complaint was lodged with the Cyber Crime Office in Quetta as also with the website on cyber crime.

#### Hostile propaganda in Bhakkar

**Bhakkar; September 2017**: Ahmadis installed CCTV cameras and barbed wire on the outer wall of their local Ahmadiyya mosque on the directions of district authorities. At this the opponents of the Ahmadiyya community started a baseless propaganda against Ahmadis in the vernacular press. Ahmadis reported it to the authorities.

Authorities sent for the opponent party and advised them firmly to refrain from hateful activities. Although they have refrained from using the vernacular press as before, but in their meetings they exhort the public against Ahmadis.

# Severe hostility in Nankana Sahib

*Nankana; September 2017:* Anti-Ahmadiyya agitation has escalated after the murder here of an Ahmadi, Mr. Saleem Lateef earlier this year.

Mr. Mubashir Ahmad of Shadbagh Colony was repeatedly harassed by a local. On September 22, Mr. Ahmad was outside his child's school to bring him back when an unknown man approached him and told him to stay away or end up dead. At another occasion the same man came to the stationary shop where Mr. Ahmad was buying some stationary items along with his wife for his children. He forbade the shopkeeper to sell them anything as they were Mirzais (Ahmadis), and he threatened again to kill Mr. Ahmad. At another occasion Mrs. Ahmad went to a fruit shop, where the shopkeeper asked her whether she was Ahmadi? She nodded. The shopkeeper took back his fruits, and used foul language.

Mr. Mahmood, another Ahmadi from the same locality is also facing severe hostility. He is suffering a total social boycott in his neighborhood. He had to shift his children to several schools due to faith-based hostility in schools. Once his son Usama Ahmad was returning home after evening prayers when some youths manhandled him, and nobody nearby came to his rescue. Mr. Mahmood's daughter died sometime back, and was buried in the common cemetery. Opponents exhumed her body and the bereaved father had to bury her in his own farm.

#### **Neighbourhood hostility**

Guldasht Town, Lahore; September 27, 2017: Lahore Tahrik Khatme Nabuwwat activists bought a house here in the neighbourhood of an old Ahmadi widow. They turned it into a sort of worship place and took to bad mouthing Ahmadis through loudspeakers. The Ahmadi lady now wants to sell her house at any cost. Maulvi Tahir Razzaq is at the forefront of this intrigue. Earlier he inflamed an angry mob to a riot against Ahmadiyya houses in a different location in the city.

They held a Khatme Nabuwwat conference on September 7 at this house, and again bad mouthed Ahmadis.

#### Hostile visit in Mughalpura, Lahore

Sahwari, Mughalpura, Lahore; September 4, 2017: Mr. Ijaz Ahmad is an Ahmadi; his neighbor Mr. Sajjad Hussain put up a banner on the outer wall of Mr. Ahmad's house. The banner conveyed, "Get a coffin for free". A group noticed the banner and objected: "Who has put up this banner on the wall of a Mirzai's house? They are infidels and irrelevant to coffins for Muslims?" They were informed that it was put up by Mr. Hussain who is the neighbor of Mr. Ahmad. "Convey to Mr. Hussain to remove it from here", they warned.

In the evening a dozen people accompanied by the local mulla turned up at the spot. They were harsh with Mr. Hussain and told him to take the banner off. They also threatened to square up with *Mirzais* on September 8, the day after the Khatme Nabuwwat Day.

Mr. Hussain took the banner off.

The local mulla uses foul language against Mr. Ahmad in Friday sermons and provokes the worshipers against him. Mr. Ahmad has been advised to take precautionary measures.

# **Tension in Sanghar (Sindh)**

*Sanghar; October, 2017:* Anti-Ahmadiyya sentiments are promoted actively in Sanghar. Opponents remainbusy in spreading hate against Ahmadis. Following incidents illustrate.

An iron grill was ordered for the Ahmadiyya mosque. When an Ahmadi contacted for its installation, the grill-maker refused his services for the Ahmadiyya mosque. Ahmadis had to hire another installer.

An Ahmadi Mr. Mubarak Ahmad opened his new shop 'Mubarak Electronics'. His shop is located near a mosque. Two of his workers are non-Ahmadis, and the mullas prompt them to leave the job but they have resisted this advice. One day Mr. Mubarak Ahmad was intercepted by a mulla who abused him. Mr. Ahmad decided not to respond in kind.

Another Ahmadi, Mr. Maqbool Ahmad hired a new shop near the grain market in Sanghar. Mullas told the shop owner to get his shop vacated. The shop-owner didn't oblige the mullas, so they themselves came over to the shop to dislodge the Ahmadi. Mr. Maqbool contacted the Rangers, on whose intervention the mullas withdrew.

# Anti-Ahmadiyya sentiments in society

Nazimabad, Karachi; October 16, 2017: A non-Ahmadi fellow got printedwedding invitation cards, for his son.

At the top of the card, he had a tradition printed which supported his version of the doctrine of End of prophethood.

This is something new in the social and cultural scene.

### Livelihood deprived for faith

**Rabwah**; November 2017: Mr. Muhammad Saeed has been working in a thread mill near Sheikhupura for the last eleven years. He started facing difficulties when his colleagues came to know of his Ahmadiyya identity. They boycotted him socially. When the owner of the mill came to know of it, he called Mr. Saeed and laid him off because of his faith.

Thereafter Mr. Saeed went to another mill for a job. When the mill-owner came to know that he was from Rabwah, he said that he wouldn't provide job to a *Mirzai*.

Now Mr. Saeed is jobless and is trying to find a way to earn his livelihood.

### Harassment of Ahmadis in a provincial capital

Lahore, December, 2017: Following three incidents were reported from Baghbanpura area.

- 1. Mr. Nisar Ahmad accompanied by his daughter was on his way to the local bazaar, when a non-Ahmadi friend met him and informed him that some mullas had gathered at some distance ahead; they talked of a house of a *Mirzai* (Ahmadi) here and expressed hostile intentions. Mr. Nisar returned to his house for security concern and postponed his shopping.
  - Earlier he owned a shop in this bazaar. Opponents frequently raised anti-Ahmadiyya slogans near his shop. As a result, he had to give up that shop.
- 2. Mr. Fahim Ahmad owns 'Nisar Studio' in Shalamar Chowk. One day he went to his shop and saw approximately a hundred men gathered there. They carried Khatme Nabuwwat posters, and raised anti-Ahmadiyya slogans.
- 3. Mr. Mubashir Ahmad Tanvir is a resident of Sahwari. One evening, while sitting with his family in the lawn, he heard gun-fire. They hurried inside. After some time he went to the roof where he saw a number of empty bullet shells. It seems that this prank was done by his neighbour's spoilt son who had fired these bullets. For what reason, we are not sure.

#### b) Reports from Towns and Villages

### **Communal tension in District Peshawar**

**Bazid Khel, District Peshawar; May 2017**: Mullas and vigilantes are bent upon disturbing communal peace of this small town where three Ahmadi families reside, while two others live on its outskirts. The former demanded that Ahmadis leave the town.

On May 13 a boy was shouting 'Death to Qadianis' in a street. An elderly Ahmadi heard this and beat him up. This precipitated an ugly reaction. The police intervened, took away both the parties to the police station and arranged reconciliation.

The next day mullas in surrounding villages came to know of the incident, and they decided to reactivate the unrest. They assembled an angry procession and proceeded to knock at the door of another Ahmadi, Mr. Rafiq Ahmad. Mr. Ahmad got frightened, took out his gun and fired in the air. As a result, the police took him and his son in custody and drove them to the police station.

The next day the police addressed the two parties. The anti-Ahmadi elements demanded that Ahmadis be expelled from the town. The police explained that they did not have the authority to impose such a penalty. So the meeting remained inconclusive.

Mullas were bent upon agitation. They organized an End of Prophethood rally on May 16. Foreseeing the likelihood of harm, Ahmadis shifted their families from the town for the time being.

#### **Restrictions in Azad Kashmir**

*Tatta Pani, District Kotli:* Anti-Ahmadiyya laws are not entirely operative in AJK, however the mullas and politicians keep on hankering desperately to follow Pakistan model.

There is an Ahmadiyya mosque in Tatta Pani. Islamic creed is written in the mosque and routine call for prayers is made. Some miscreants approached the police to step in.

Ahmadis had to stop the call to prayers. The police were happy with that, and filed an 'all is well' report.

# Welcoming alleged blasphemy and mischief

*Shaukatabad, District Nankana*: Mr. Muhammad Ishaq, Ahmadi, bought a house here sometimes ago. Outside there was a drain line with a slab on it, put there by the erstwhile owner. The slab was still there.

Later, Mr. Ishaq had the slab lifted in order to raise the drain line. It was discovered that on the underside of the slab Arabic words *Bismillah*, *Allah* and *Muhammad* were written. This caused concern and the news spread like wildfire.

The mulla of the local mosque arrived fast and photographed the slab. A few decent men from the locality had the photos deleted and the slab broken up to be buried. This cooled down the situation to some extent.

Mischief-mongers still pursued the incident hoping to make some unworthy gains.

# Hostility in the bazaar

Mittha Tawana, District Khushab; June - August 2017:Mr. Inamullah Khan Ahmadi is a representative of the MOBILINK in Qaidabad, District Khushab. He is active in the community life and is district president of the Ahmadi youth. For quite some time he was targeted by the Khatme Nabuwwat organization who campaigned against him and his business activities, among the population, especially traders.

In the past, Mr. Inamullah's opponents were active in Qaidabad and Chak 2 TDA; later they extended their hateful campaign to the town of Mittha Tawana.

On June 20, they posted anti-Ahmadi posters in the town. Traders were urged to boycott all dealings with Inamullah. Some members of the MOBILINK joined the AMTKN in this drive and shared anti-Ahmadiyya messages with the company's WhatsApp group.

As a result of the above, a number of traders boycotted MOBILINK. This made the company send their official to Mittha Tawana to make an inquiry. During the inquiry when the official and Mr. Inamullah visited a shop, the shop-keeper objected to Mr. Inamullah's visit and told him to get out as he was a *kafir*, and *kafirs* were not allowed to enter his shop. Subsequently the bigot told the company official that the boycott would be lifted only when the Qadiani was fired.

The official went back to report his findings to his superiors.

On August 13, his neighbors held a reception-cum-rally to celebrate the birthday of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). They availed this occasion to insult the founder of the Ahmadiyya Community and to bad-mouth his followers. The participants were exhorted against local Ahmadis by assertion that the latter were blasphemers and *wajib-ul-qatl* (must be killed); they should be boycotted and prosecuted if they indulge in Islamic practices.

Three days later, Mr. Inamullah was sent a post with the following message (excerpt): "Qadianis are apostates and blasphemers and as such *wajib-ul-qatl*. They continue to harm Islam and the Muslims. You, in particular, have spread great filth in this area and are busy in spreading Qadianism. We have all the information on those whom you trapped through deceit and inducement. It is in your interest to stop all this nonsense. Repent and join Islam, otherwise.... If you act clever, you will be yourself responsible for the harm that will come to you.

"Long live - End of Prophethood. From a lover of the Prophet."

Mr. Inamullah informed the authorities of this post, in writing.

#### **Uninterrupted persecution**

Chak 2 TDA, District Khushab; September - October, 2017: This village is no longer safe for Ahmadi residents. Khatme Nabuwwat activistsare free to continue with their hateful campaign against Ahmadis. They employ fresh means to add fuel to the sectarian fire they have lit.

On September 1, the day before Eid-ul-Azha members of the Khatme Nabuwwat organization called anopen meeting in 2 TDA and made hateful speeches against Ahmadiyya community. After this rally agarlanded bull was paradedin front of Ahmadis' houses along with beat of drum thus instigating response that Ahmadis desisted.

In the evening Ahmadis came to know of the opponents' decision to take action against Ahmadis who would undertake sacrificial rites on the day of Eid festival. Khatme Nabuwwat activists distributed hateful leaflets at the occasion.

Therefore Ahmadis took special precautions, shifted their sacrificial cattle from their houses to their farms during dark hours and slaughtered themin tight security.

The opponents, however, slaughtered their cattle infront of the Ahmadiyya mosque, and raised slogans against Ahmadis on the Eid day.

Hateful anti-Ahmadiyya campaign continued in 2 TDA. On October 12, Ahmadis got information that some miscreants intended to harass Ahmadis in the area. They immediately informed the authorities, and met the DPO and told him of the prevailing situation. The DPO instructed the DSP and SHO for appropriate action.

On October 13, opponents gathered almost 150 men from surrounding villages, and invited two clerics as well. One mulla came from Sialkot and the other from Quaidabad. They made hateful speeches against Ahmadis and raised slogans. Ahmadis called the police. SHO himself arrived at the scene with his team and remained there to ensure peace.

#### **Denial of Ahmadi's burial in common graveyard**

*Nadeemabad, Daska; October 28, 2017:* Malik Safdar,a brother of Malik Hameed Ullah a former district president of Ahmadiyya community Sialkot, died. A grave was dug for his burial in the common cemetery of the village. Anti-Ahmadi group took the position: "He was a Qadiani; we would not allow his burial here". They called the police. The police arrived and stopped the burial.

Ahmadis contacted the Sarpanch (*the village chief*); he also refused. When alive, Malik Safdar was a member of the Sarpanch Committee and Ahmadis wereburied in this very cemetery.

He was buried in the Ahmadiyya cemetery of a nearby village Bharuka Kalan.

The incident is indicative of the ever widening sectarian divide in Pakistan.

#### **Hostility at street level**

*Farooqabad; October 17, 2017:* Mr. Manzoor Ahmad lived in Siddique Abad near a mosque. On October 17 his son Bilal climbed the roof of the mosque to repair an electric connection. To this some residents of the street objected and took the plea: "Why an infidel (*Kafir*) climbed over the roof of our mosque?" Bilal jumped from the roof to escape from these people.

The locals decided to file a police case against Bilal. Mr. Manzoor is influential in the town, so both the parties made a truce in the police station over this paltry issue.

The incident shows the intolerance spread in the society by the extremist mulla.

#### Anti-Ahmadiyya sentiments in the young generation

*Mehmooda, Rawalpindi; October, 2017:* A mulla Dawood Ahmad of village Raika Meera (3 km from Mehmooda) made an anti-Ahmadiyya speech some days ago.It disturbed the peace of the village.

Mr. Zafar Ahmad, an Ahmadi has a stationary shop in village Chak Baili Khan near Mehmooda. A boy gave him a book-binding order. The boy then came to know that Mr. Ahmad is an Ahmadi, so he asked from the village mulla that *Qadianis* (Ahmadis) are *Wajibul-qatl* (deserving death), and having got the book-binding done by him should he tear it to pieces. The mulla replied that there was no need to do that; he also sent a message 'Be careful' to Mr. Ahmad.

Two days before this incident, a person came to Mr. Ahmad's shop and told him that he was a *Mirzai* (Ahmadi) and believed *Mirza Sahib* (Founder of Ahmadiyya Jamaat) to be the last prophet. Ahmad told him that Ahmadis believed Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) to be the last prophet.

It was learnt that, activists of KN (End of Prophethood) were planning to hold a KN rally in the village.

#### c) The Media

#### A commendable synopsis of Ahmadiyya situation in Pakistan

Online: The Sunday Guardian, London, released an op-ed on 15 April, 2017 titled: Between dictators and democrats, Pakistan's Ahmadis continue to suffer.It encapsulates effectively the Ahmadiyya situation of the past four decades. It refers briefly to the triggering roles of Zulfiquar Ali Bhutto and General Zia, and moves on to how democrats like Benazir Bhutto and dictators, local and foreign, nurtured the evil plant of anti-Ahmadi bigotry. It spotlights the role of AMTKN (Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat) an End of

Prophethood organization, its role in Pakistan and abroad and the Saudi financial support it enjoys. It minces no words in the mention of AMTKN's links with extremist violence-prone elements. It arrives at the conclusion: *Ahmadis in Pakistan are in even greater danger now than ever before.* This op-ed is very readable and deserves a place in archives.

#### **Fear and Silence**

*Lahore;* 2010: Mohsin Hamid, a great novelist is also known as 'a master critic of the modern global condition'. He has written superb articles on various issues; these have been published in book named: Discontent and its Civilizations. One of these is about Ahmadis in Pakistan. It was published in the daily Dawn as well in 2010. It examines Ahmadis' persecution from a different perspective: its harm to Pak society in general. Also, it is a piece of literature. It is reproduced at Annex IV.

# Journalist receives death threats for writing about Ahmadis – run over by car

*Lahore:* The blog **Rabwah.net** issued the following story on June 10, 2017 regarding Mr. Tanveer Ahmad (not an Ahmadi):

A Pakistani journalist known for reporting on Pakistan's minorities was run over by a car on Friday. The incident comes just days after Police refused to investigate death threats against him.

39-year-old Rana Tanveer who works for the Pakistan-based Express Tribune was run over by a speeding car on Friday afternoon as he was coming back from the Punjab Union of Journalists' meeting. He was taken to hospital with a suspected leg fracture where he is currently awaiting surgery.



Tanveer for years has reported on the country's increasing persecution and mistreatment of religious minorities. His recent reports on the Freemasons, Ahmadis, and Jains attracted the attention of right-wing Islamist groups, who consider such reporting an act of Blasphemy, a crime punishable by death.

Just last week, when Tanveer and his family returned to their home in Lahore they found their house vandalized and graffiti calling him a 'Kafir' (Infidel) & 'Worthy of Death' sprayed on the front door of his rented house.

The threat written in Urdu read, "قادیانی نواز رانا نتویر کافر واجب القتل" "Qadiani supporter Rana Tanveer is an Infidel who deserves to be Killed". 'Qadiani' is a derogatory term used for minority Ahmadi Muslims who are severely persecuted in the country.

قادیان نوار را نا تنویر واقع القتل

The Police have so far refused to register both of these cases. Several Pakistani journalists on Friday tweeted condemnations against the attack on Tanveer.

The above story has been assessed authentic. However, there were further developments after June 10. The police have registered an FIR and are investigating. They have not yet disclosed the vandalizers nor the driver who sped away after running over the victim. Rana Tanveer has been operated upon for fracture in the leg. He may be unable to walk for weeks.

It waslearnt that the notorious anti-Ahmadi activist Muaviya, brother of well-known Allama Tahir Ashrafi had conveyed to Rana Tanveer in the past that his writings in favour of minorities had been taken note of.

When this reporter visited the injured Rana Tanveer, he found him undaunted, spirited and unimpressed by a message to him and a fellow journalist on social media: "If there are other volunteers for getting bashed-up, we are ready to serve." (Translated from Punjabi)

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) condemned the killing of a journalist in Haripur and death threats to and an apparent attack on another (Rana Tanveer) in Lahore. *The dailyDawn, June 13, 2017* 

It is for consideration that if a 'Qadiani supporter' journalist meets this kind of animosity, what would be the level of spite against 'Qadianis' themselves in the bigoted sections of state and society in the country.

#### False and hateful anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda in the daily Ausaf, Lahore

**Lahore:** The vernacular daily Ausaf is one of those newspapers that have adopted the policy of maligning Ahmadis routinely and excessively. In this, the daily violates the provisions of the National Action Plan as also the decent norms of journalism. It fabricates news, when there is nothing to report, and prints these in multiple headlines. Also the wording of the news items convey the prejudice and malice of the editorial staff. Below we produce translation of a three-column news published by this paper on September 27, 2017.

(Ahmadi) Youth disgusted by the filthy and frivolous language of Mirza Ghulam. Qadianis put a ban on their books.

Hundreds of educated youth feel dissatisfied with illogical views of the cursed Mirza. The Chief of Canadian (Ahmadi) Mission accepts Islam.

Now only a few parts of Mirza's writings of his final years will be available for reading; London (headquarters) will permit and specify these.

In the fine print, the quoted source is a 'representative' of Ausaf. It is mentioned that 'hundreds of educated Qadianis are adopting the Right Path (Non-Ahmadiyya Islam); their Caliph in London will, now onward, authorize the few extracts to be made available for reading; in 2008, open permission to read whatever Mirza wrote was given, but this resulted in conversion to Islam; there were dangerous consequences for the Qadiani community, ...'

#### Anti-Ahmadiyya rhetoric on electronic media

In a T.V. program 'Point of View' on Channel '24 News' on 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 a panel comprising Dr. Danish (host of the program), Dr. Muhammad Ashraf Asif Jalali, Mr. Umar Riaz Abbasi and Mr. Arif Hameed Bhatti discussed the issue of 'end of prophethood'. With reference to this doctrine, Ahmadi-bashers bad-mouth the Ahmadi community. This penal did

the same; however, one of them indulged in such falsehood and slander that it should be placed on record. Umar Riaz Abbasi, a member of the Pakistan Awami Tahrik, a politicoreligious party headed by Dr. Tahir ul Qadri, ranted as follows:

"I would like to expose some realities today.

- In the KN (end of prophethood) movement of 1953 approximately 18,000 people embraced Shahadat (martyrdom).
- Shahbaz Sharif handed over 60 schools of Punjab Education Foundation to Qadianis through an NGO; why?
- Khushab DPO is a Qadiani and a class-fellow of Shahbaz Sharif; why?
- Qadianis attacked an Eid Milad-un-Nabi procession in Chakwal; the administration remained silent over the shahadat (martyrdom) of our man, and was partial to Qadianis; why?
- Is the Punjab Government Qadiani nawaz (well-wisher of Ahmadis)?
- I would like to disclose another fact today: In the Model Town incident, shooters in police uniform were hired Qadianis."

The above is simply a pack of lies. For instance, in the 1953 riots, a judicial inquiry concluded that 37 men were killed by security personnel. Abbasi raised this total to 18000, 80% more than even the figure of 10,000 to which most of the mullas have settled down 60 years later. Abbasi went berserk at the last point in making a very serious, entirely false allegation against Ahmadis.

It is dismal that neither the host nor any participant asked Abbasi to provide some evidence. The Channel management also failed to note the gravity of the charge, and thus sullied their self-reputation at the hands of a corrupt and irresponsible guest. A milder comment by us will not do justice to the enormity committed by Riaz Abbasi of PAT (led by no other than Maulvi Tahir ul Qadri).

#### d) Disturbing threats

#### Harassment through blasphemy accusation

Hattar, District Hazara; November 2017: An Ahmadi boy, Arsal Ahmad S/O Mr. Tasawwar Ahmad felt some nail pinching in his shoe. He put a piece of paper in it as remedy and went to a cobbler. When the cobbler took out the paper, he found the name of Allah written on it. Arsal had not done that intentionally. Another boy, present there, took the paper and gave it to the local mulla. He and a few others created hue and cry over it. Thereafter a few men came to the house of Arsal Ahmad and inquired from his father. "Arsal is a child, he did not do it intentionally, however we seek pardon over it," said Mr. Qadeer, an Ahmadi neighbor of Mr. Ahmad, to the visitors. This apparently settled the issue.

After a few days Mr. Tasawwar Ahmad received threatening letter from the Khatme Nabuwwat organization; it conveyed:

"Anti-Ahmadiyya ordinance has to be implemented. You have blasphemed against the Holy Prophet (PBUH). We are talking over this issue. A police case will be registered against you by tomorrow. You have undertaken terrorism. Meetings are held in your house and in the house of Chaudhry Shakeel and

Bajwa. Your children will be burnt after one week. Your house will be burnt as well. Leave this area. Action plan is being prepared in Haripur against you. We'll not leave you alone; action will be taken."

#### Maulvi Fazl ur Rahman (JUI) threatens death

*Swat; October 8, 2017:* The following was reported by The Express Tribune(extracts): Khatm-e-Nabuwwat oath: Fazl claims credit for defending religious law

Tribune.com.pk/story/1526090/whoever-tries-change-khatm-e-nabuwwat-law-dead-man-warns-fazl/on 10/8/2017

SWAT: Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman warned on Sunday that anyone who tried to change the Khatme Nabuwwat law would be inviting his own death.

Addressing a JUI-F rally in Swat, he congratulated the nation for 'foiling a conspiracy' to mould the law in Parliament, while referring to the recently amended The Election (Amendment) Act 2017, which sparked a controversy "No one can touch the Khatm-e-Nabuwwat and Khatm-e-Resalat of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and if anyone tries he would be inviting his own death" Rehman said.

"Islam is being attacked. Our enemy is so weak and coward that he attacks us unawares. You saw our enemy tried to secretly attack Khatm-e-Nabuwwat in Parliament but our party was there. We resisted and within 24 hours what damage had been caused was addressed and compensated for", he said amid slogans by party activists.

Our friends ask how it happened. You should be thankful that the conspiracy was foiled, he said, adding that no one had any information that the bill which had been agreed upon in certain shape had been changed later.

**Note:** Rehman did not tell his audience that his party members were part of the parliamentary Sub-Committee that prepared the final draft of the Election Bill 2017 before it was sent to the Senate.

#### e) Diverse

#### Clinical psychologist's report on an Ahmadi victim of persecution

**Rabwah**: An NGO undertook research in some cases of Ahmadi victims of persecution who were interviewed in the presence of a clinical psychologist. The latter subsequently rendered a professional report; here we reproduce for record description of one such case:

#### Case study

Ms. Ruby Tabbasum, a 33 year old lady, widow of martyred Mr. Qamar ul Zia and mother of three children (12 year old Huzaifa Ahmad, 9 year old Amtul Mateen Bisma and 5 year old Late Amtul Hadi) was referred to clinical psychologist by a general physician of Fazle Omar Hospital one year after trauma of her husband's brutal martyrdom (he was martyred on 1st March 2016). According to her, she had more than 40 visits in emergency department of Fazle Omar Hospital and Tahir Heart Institute, Rabwah with complaints of severe anxiety and high blood pressure right after the death of her husband.

She was assessed psychologically and was given a diagnosis of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and depression. She had developed symptoms like recurrent flashbacks of trauma a number of times during day, nightmares, inability to experience positive emotions, feeling of detachment from

others, diminished interest in activities, concentration problems, disturbed memory, state of denial, psychosomatic complaints (aches and pain in body, stiffness in muscles, digestive problems) and insomnia. There was a clinically significant distress in functioning. According to her, she had passed a satisfied, happy, and family-oriented life full of motivation and creativity. She had strong bonded family, never had any of financial problems as her husband never let them feel any of financial worries and provided them a warm, caring and full of life environment. After sudden and unexpected martyrdom of her husband she remained in state of denial and anger (main features of grief) for long. Her symptoms got more intensified 24 days after death of her 5-year old daughter, who witnessed death of her father and couldn't endure it, stated by her. Her relationship with family members also got disturbed. She received psychotherapy along with psychiatric medication which has become a part of her life now. She still has frequent episodes of flashbacks of trauma and anxiety associated with that trauma.

According to Ms. Ruby Tabbasum, her children have developed fear and low self-control after death of their father and younger sister. Her elder son is facing adjustment issues and learning difficulties after occurrence of trauma. She also has financial issues that have made her lead a compromising life. These conditions can be more psychologically unhealthy for her and her children.

**Note:** The case of Ms. Tabbasum could represent a type among victims in similar circumstances; we at the headquarters, however, know through experience that reactions and response to acts of persecution vary with different individuals. We have come across some others who bear up with tyranny and affliction with poise, balance, even *sangfroid*.

#### A liberal intellectual under threat of extremist mullas

Lahore; January 2017: Shan Taseer decided to send a message of sympathy as support on social media to Christian Aasia Bibi, Nabil Masih and others who are targeted under the blasphemy law. This disturbed the mullas greatly and they came out in a big way against this good gesture.

Tahrik Ya Rasool Ullah of Pir Afzal Qadri took the lead in the hostile protest. This is the same party that was in the forefront in the attack on the Ahmadiyya mosque in Dulmial. Qadri gave the fatwa that Taseer was cursed (*Maloon*) and *Wajib-ul-Qatl*. This party took out a hostile rally on this issue on January 1, 2017 in Mughalpura. They demanded that a police case be registered against Taseer.

The participants of the procession abused not only Mr. Taseer, but also the police and the government. They declared: "We'll sacrifice our lives, but not spare the blasphemer. The government is pro-Qadianis. We'll kill the blasphemers; they are *Wajib-ul-Qatl*."

The authorities decided to let the mullas do what they liked, so as to let the event pass.

#### Confessions of a top militant/Islamist Jihadist

*Islamabad; April 27, 2017*: Ehsanullah Ehsan, former spokesman of TTP and Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (JuA) reportedly surrendered to Pak Army and made a recorded video statement that was released by the Army.

As these Jihadist organizations claim to carry out their militant and terrorist attacks under Islamist motivation; it will be appropriate to place on record the reality as stated by one

of their topleaders – their former spokesman. The daily Dawn covered the story in its issue of April 27, 2017 and reported the following (extracts):

"Ehsan, who was the main leader of JuA before being captured and serving as TTP spokesman, throughout the clip looked to be distancing himself from the groups with which he remained attached over the past nine years.

"At one point he said he questioned JuA leader Omar Khalid Khorasani for getting support from RAW.

"I told Khalid Khorasani that what we are doing is helping *Kuffaar* by carrying out activities within our country and killing our own people. In a way we are serving them, he said, adding this led him to believe that militant leaders were serving their personal interests and pursuing "some sort of agenda".

"Ehsan blamed his former colleagues for sending foot soldiers to fight Pakistan Army, while keeping themselves safe in their sanctuaries. He spoke about turf wars within the TTP, and said its leadership was misleading youths in the name of religion and recruiting them for their own designs.

"Islam does not allow this, said Ehsan, who had in the past claimed responsibility for some of the most gruesome attacks. He mocked at TTP chief Mullah Fazlullah's rise as the group's leader through a draw and accused him of forcibly marrying his mentor Maulvi Soofi Mohammad's daughter.

"We fled to Afghanistan after the Army launched operations in North Waziristan. There I saw these people develop contacts with NDS (National Directorate of Security, Afghanistan) and RAW (Research and Analysis Wing, India), which supported and funded them", Ehsan, whose original name is Liquate Ali, said in a 5-minute-53-second video clip released to media by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

"Ehsan is seen in the video say NDS and RAW gave 'targets' to TTP and JuA, who received remuneration for every activity they carried out in Pakistan."

**Note:** Many analysts and scholars have consistently maintained all along that these so-called Jihadists have little to do with Islam – it is all about money and self-interest.

#### Unbelievable fatwa from Darul Uloom, Deoband

*From Twitter*: A *fatwa* (edict) from the well-known Darul Uloom Deoband was posted and commented upon on Twitter Via@aleysha110 on June 10, 2017 on the issue of women consulting 'Qadiani' doctors during pregnancy. It is interesting, revealing and demonstrative.

#### Question:

Is it allowed for a Muslim woman to consult Qadianis/Ahmadis female doctor for her maternity issue and delivery keeping in mind that we have consulted several Muslim doctors? However my wife was unable to conceive and now she is 7 months pregnant and the female doctor who helps her to conceive is Qadiani. We got to know that she is Qadiani 2 days ago and we are too worried about it. Please let me know in the light of Sharia can she handle our case as a doctor else what are the other options we can adopt. (sic)

#### Answer (Fatwa)

Bismillah ir Rahman ir Rahim (Fatwa: 224/223/N=01/1435)

As per the unanimous opinion of all Ulama, the Qadianis are kafir, apostate and out of the fold of Islam and the ruling concerning them are not like general kafirs, rather it is harsher. Hence when you knew that the lady doctor who is treating your pregnant wife is a Qadiani then you should leave her and contact any other lady doctor for her treatment. (sic)

#### Usman Ahmad tweeted the following opinions to @aleysha, on June 11:

- I guess it is easy to spout such nonsense when your own health and life isn't at risk.
- What these mullas continuously fail to understand is that without basic, decent human values there can be no religion.
- What is more frightening is people have been so brainwashed when it comes to religion that any one even felt the need to ask this question.

#### A well-considered discrimination!

*July 9, 2017*: The Government of Sindh got published a half-page ad, in colour in various newspapers including the daily Jang, Lahore of July 9, 2017, paid from public funds; it carried a message of felicitations to the Aga Khan IV, under the following headline:

A deeply felt hearty message of felicitations on the Diamond Jubilee of the Imamate of the 49<sup>th</sup> hereditary and familial Imam Prince Shah Karim ul Hussaini Agha Khan of the Shia Imamia Ismaili Muslims.

A colour picture of the Aga Khan adores a quarter of the page of the newspaper. Three pictures, although smaller in size, of Messers Zardari, Bilawal Bhutto and Murad Ali Shah are pasted in line above the headline.

A statement of gratefulness for the Aga Khan's tireless services to the country is made in the text of the ad.

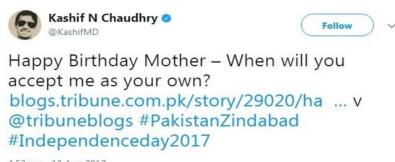
Ahmadis appreciate the Government of Sindh's public support to the Ismaili community in the face of mullah's insistence that Ismailis are non-Muslims, perhaps more so than the 'Qadianis'.

Ahmadis, however, also wish that the government's courageous treatment of minority communities were more even-handed. Many Ahmadis have been murdered for their faith in Karachi, and the mullas of Khatme Nabuwwat are free to declare them *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (must be killed) in the open. Also, the authorities may like to look up their records and see if they have permitted construction of even one house of worship for Ahmadis in Sindh province in the last three decades.

#### An Ahmadi's call to mother(land)

*On Twitter; August 13, 2017:*Mr. Kashif N Chaudhri is an Ahmadi from Pakistan. He is residing abroad now. On August 14, 2017 Pakistan was celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was a memorable event. Mr.Chaudhri moved by the import and gravity of the occasion felt touched to the core and tweeted the following loaded message:

Mr.Chaudhri represented hundreds of thousands of Pakistani Ahmadis, living abroad or inside the country, in posing the above emotive question to his fellow Pakistanis. It has been like that for over 40 years – a long time.



4:53 pm - 13 Aug 2017

#### Religious freedom under attack in Pakistan: Secretary Tillerson

US report highlights attacks on Muslims by cow-protection groups in India

*Washington:* US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson alleged on Wednesday that religious freedom was under attack in Pakistan, where more than two dozen people were on death row or serving a life imprisonment for blasphemy.

He said the Pakistan government had marginalized the Ahmadiyya Community and refused to recognize them as Muslims....

By Dawn correspondent in the daily Dawn of August 17, 2017

#### A long list of proscribed Islamist organizations - and a comment

*Islamabad; September 1, 2017:* Ministry of Interior this month issued a list to the press of 71 organizations Proscribed/Under Observation, almost all religious and Islamist. One such ad appeared in the daily *Dawn* of September 1, 2017, one day before the festival of Eid ul Azha. The ad is titled: Don't let your **Donations Fall into Wrong Hands**and the list is introduced with the following warning:

"As per national laws, it is a crime to donate hides of animals to organizations involved in activities related to terrorism. On the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, donate hides of your sacrificial animals to those welfare organizations that are not proscribed under any national and international laws and must be working purely for the national welfare."

The list comprises organizations, most of which are known for their Salafi, Wahabi, Deobandi etc. origins or membership. Some new names are given along with their former application, for example; ex SSP, ex JeM, ex TJP etc. This initiative on the part of the Ministry of Interior is commendable; however it calls of a comment in the context of internal national security.

It is well-recognized that half measures and half-hearted steps rarely deliver success and goals. The call to believers to not donate hides of sacrificial cattle to these organizations will affect to some extent their budgets, but they surely do not depend upon hides alone to remain functional and effective.

If these organizations are involved in activities related to terrorism, why are they tolerated to operate with new names? Also if their charity wings are not working purely for the national and general welfare, why allow them to function?

The authorities know that these organizations have sympathizers and facilitators who provide them all kinds of support, including ideological, financial and personnel; these

remain in the rear but are known for their not so discreet backing to them. Why these facilitators continue to enjoy free hand in their support activities? These include a number of political as well as religious parties and organizations. They openly support sectarianism, extremism and, indirectly, terrorism. To them, violence against adherents of other beliefs, even though marginally different, is permissible, even mandatory. The mullas of various Khatme Nabuwwat organizations openly and repeatedly call Ahmadis *Wajib-ul-Qatl*.

Well-known politicians are on record to openly consort and support leaders of these proscribed organizations. These people have often been called by them our people in political parlance and Taliban Khans have insisted on negotiating with them rather than confronting them. The false scions of the Quaid-e-Azam sent their ministers to participate in the rallies of these mouth-frothing fanatics to register their presence to gain votes of the ignorant masses.

Provinces appear to exercise great autonomy in dealing with them, in disregard of the federal assessment of these people as mentioned in this ad. The Punjab has formed an Ulama Board whose recommendations are treated by the Department of Interior as orders. These Ulama went to the same type of madrassas as the leaders of the 71 advertised organizations. This Board may have contributed little to the fight against terrorism, but it has had great success in banning the entire literature produced by the founder of the Ahmadiyya community, who took a firm stand against terrorism and *Jihad bis Saif* (violence in support of religion) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and the community has followed that teaching ever since.

In the Punjab, counter-terrorism department has mounted successful raids against the peaceful Ahmadis. The CTD arrested an octogenarian Ahmadi book-seller of Rabwah and got him incarcerated for (5+3) eight years through an ATC court. During the trial the prosecution failed to point out any content in the confiscated literature that promoted terrorism in any way.

In Dulmial, District Chakwal, a procession led by extremist mullas, unlawfully altered its authorized route and attacked the Ahmadiyya mosque. It is nowalmost a yearthat the mosque has been locked to the worshippers, while the mob leaders and riot planners roam around free. The ring leader managed to flee to Canada, although he was mentioned in earlier dispatches.

More recently, at the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha the anti-Ahmadiyya organizations openly agitated against Ahmadis' right to sacrifice cattle, and directed their followers to report to the police if any Ahmadi undertook this rite. It is noteworthy that these bullies expected the police to support them. Ahmadis consequently faced difficulties in performing this rite and disposal of hides.

The authorities, both in provinces and Islamabad will do well to implement the National Action Plan in letter and spirit to rid the Pakistani society of extremism and terrorism. And surely, further persecution of the peace-loving Ahmadi community is not an honest and fruitful interpretation of the NAP; it is hypocrisy a *l'extreme* and is nothing but playing in the hands of the evil that the state aims to eliminate.

This 71 org list should be sufficient proof to all in the government, the intelligentsia, the establishment and the civil society in Pakistan that the mulla's 21<sup>st</sup> century understanding of Islam is faulty and harmful. They must dare to examine and adopt some alternate version even if it is uncommon and unpopular. After all, the wise few of Medina, when faced with

unmanageable chaos, picked someone from far away Makka to be their lord, seer and guide, PBUH. This made them historically a model and successful community.

#### **An improved National Narrative under consideration**

Islamabad; December 18, 2017: The daily DUNYA of Faisalabad reported at some length the news of a fresh 'National Narrative' under consideration of the government of Pakistan, the Interior Ministry. The daily claimed that it has obtained a document, drafted by MACNA that is tasked to fight terrorism, now attached to the Ministry of Interior. This narrative is expected to be implemented after approval by the prime minister.

The draft of National Narrative includes the following provisions, *inter alia*:

- Only the state has the authority to declare Jihad or war.
- No person or group is allowed to declare Pakistan 'Darul Harb' (Abode of war) or an unislamic state and declare the armed forces, security organizations or the people as Kafir (unbelievers) or Murtad (apostate).
- Private militias and armed groups are not allowed in the country.
- Protection of minorities is state responsibility.
- Official documents like passport, identity cards etc will not carry a mention of religion, in order to promote national cohesion.
- Fundamentalism is not restricted to only armed and extremist groups, it is widespread.
- No parallel institutions, in fighting nor in education, shall be permitted.
- Respect for others' views should be promoted and hate speech shall be stopped.
- Muslims are expected to be moderate and not extremist in mutual dealings and in dealing with others.
- Violence in the name of religion should be strongly condemned.
- Pakistan shall be made a modern, progressive and peaceful state, a model for the Ummah, where there shall be no room for violence on the basis of belief, sect, caste, colour or ethnicity.
- Some extremists misquote the Quran to declare other Muslims as *Kafir* and *Wajib-ul-Qatl...*; this shall not be allowed.
- Only a special committee will approve registration of blasphemy cases by the police; the committee shall comprise representatives of LEAs, MNAs, MPAs, reputed clerics, and minority representatives if the accused is a member of a minority group.
- None will be allowed to take law in his hand and those preaching violence and indulging in false accusation will be severely dealt with and fined.
- Madrassas promoting violence and hate will be shut down and the proprietors held accountable without discrimination.
- No madrassah shall be allowed to avail foreign funds, without permission, etc, etc.

We have two comments on the above Draft Narrative:

1. It is apparent that the authorities are now well aware of the nature and causes of terrorism and extremism. They know the remedial steps as well. But, is there enough

will and strength in the various institutions of the state to undertake all that is required, in a selfless and committed manner?

- 2. Our past experience is not encouraging in this field; for instance:
  - a. A Supreme Court bench, headed by Chief Justice Jillani came up with similar conclusions and judgment on June 19, 2014 that was called landmark, game changer, historical, etc. It dealt extensively with the issue of minorities. Their lordships provided even a set of directives to implement their verdict. Almost nothing was undertaken on the ground thereafter.
  - b. Six months later, extremists attacked Army Public School in Peshawar and killed 134 school children. This outrage gave birth to National Action Plan (NAP that was produced by consensus of all the major state stake-holders). The 20 pointsof the plan were not honoured by most of the authorities. (On the other hand, the Govt of Punjab banned the entire written works of the founder of the Ahmadiyyat, and raided the only book shop in Rabwah.) Six months after the announcement of the NAP, a Supreme Court judge observed in court, "There is hardly any progress in implementation of the NAP."

So, any forecast for the effectiveness of the National Narrative is a hazardous undertaking.

#### **UNHCR's assessment of Ahmadis' need of international refuge**

UNHCR in one of its reports has come to the following conclusion:

" ...

In light of the foregoing, UNHCR considers that members of the Ahmadi community, including those targeted by militant groups or charged with criminal offences under the blasphemy or anti-Ahmadi provisions, are likely to be in need of international refugee protection on account of religion, ethnicity, (imputed) political opinion, and/or other relevant grounds, depending on the individual circumstances of the case."

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) January 2017 Pg 38, HCR/EG/PAK/17/01

#### **Amendment**

In our annual report for 2016, on page 129 in line 2, for December 31, 2015 read December 31, 2016.

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#### 9. From the Media

News and op-eds from the press and the internet that have a direct or indirect bearing on the persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan form a routine feature at the end of our monthly reports. A selection from those is reproduced here. These are placed in the following sections:a. Ahmadis' human rights; b. Rabwah; c. Anti-Ahmadiyya rhetoric; d. The militant mulla; e. Statements on record; f. Foreign and NGOs; g. Political; h. Miscellaneous; i. Op-eds.

For more of these please see the monthly reports.

#### a. Ahmadis' human rights

Ahmadi professor found murdered

The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 19, 2017

Assailants mow down Ahmadi man (in Khanpur)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 5, 2017

Legislation by AJK Assembly on Qadiani issue is a great achievement (azeem karnama): MTKN

The daily Insaf; Lahore, May 10, 2017

Three (Ahmadis) sentenced to death on blasphemy charge

The daily Dawn; Lahore, October 12, 2017

2 (Ahmadi) accused sentenced to 12 years imprisonment each (sic) for publishing banned books

The daily Jang; Lahore, June 01, 2017

Ahmadi family's house burgled – despite the deployment of 150 police personnel in the troubled village of Dulmial

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 6, 2017

Returning Ahmadi villagers face social boycott

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, January 6, 2017

Fake Qadianis' graves should be demolished forthwith: Ulama Karam

The daily Express; Faisalabad, February 21, 2017

LeJ al-Aalami claims responsibility for (Ahmadi) professor's murder

Sabzazar police registered a murder case on the complaint of victim's heirs and did not add terrorism charges in the case.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 9, 2017

Behind bars: Bail pleas of two Ahmadi men refused

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, April 15, 2017

IHC restores all 8 laws concerning the end of prophethood. If heavens fall, I do not care: Justice Siddiqui

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, November 15, 2017

Resolution adopted by the Punjab Assembly to include End of Prophethood in school syllabus

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, November 25, 2017

PM Azad Kashmir calls on Maulana Pir M Atiq ur Rehman

PM Azad Kashmir M Farooq Haider Khan and Speaker Assembly Shah Ghulam Qadir assured Maulana Pir M Atiq ur Rehman that they will take steps to legislate concerning Qadianis in the next Assembly session.

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, April 27, 2017

(Police) case against six Ahmadis

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 16, 2017

Year 2018 will be celebrated as one for 'Awareness of End of Prophethood': Federal Ministry of Religious Affairs

The daily Ummat; Karachi, December 5, 2017

Khatme Nabuwwat course to be held in Chenab Nagar 29 April – 20 May

The daily Islam; Lahore, April 27, 2017

Four (of MTKN) held in Ahmadi professor's murder case

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 21, 2017

A Mirzai recants to become a Muslim (in District Chiniot). Safdar Ahmad was renamed Muhammad Safdar.

The daily Khabrain; Lahore, May 6, 2017

Ulama condemn appointment of a Qadiani as vice principal

The daily Islam; Lahore, July 18, 2017

IKNM Central Amir Dr Saeed Ahmad Inayatullah meets Raja Zafrul Haq (PML-N leader)

The daily Jinnah; Lahore, August 9, 2017

Firm resolve in Chenab Nagar to once again sacrifice lives to keep safe End of Prophethood: Op-ed in the daily Islam

The daily Islam; Lahore, September 17, 2017

Capt. Safdar seeks ban on hiring Ahmadis in military, judiciary

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, October 11, 2017

PA echoes with Khatme Nabuwwat issue

The daily The Nation; Lahore, October 19, 2017

**Khatme-i-Nabuwwat declaration restored (in Senate)** 

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, October 11, 2017

In a petition submitted to Islamabad High Court, Islamic cleric Allah Wasaya of Tahrik-i-Khatm-i-Nabuwwat demands that the court:

Direct the respondent No 3 (Federal Government) to maintain, henceforth, a separate database of individuals belonging to the Qadiani group/Lahori group entering in civil service so that in future they may not be posted in offices involving sensitive matter (s) such as raised in the instant petition.

While reporting the above, the following was reported on dawn.com/news/1370459 on 14 November 2017:

"...The judge also asked the federal government to submit a reply regarding the request for a database within 14 days." (Justice Shaukat Siddiqui)

(Qadiani voter lists) should be made public for scrutiny: Abdul Latif Khalid (Convener Coordination Joint Movement Khatme Nabuwwat)

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, November 18, 2017

Qadianis can be stopped by adding religion column to the ID card

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, November 1, 2017

Prime Minister Azad Kashmir (is) *Ghatia* (shallow), *Zalil* (base) without shame (for his vile remarks in support of NS): Imran Khan

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 31, 2017

#### b. Rabwah

Banned outfit terrorist held with arms, explosives (in Muslim Colony, Chenab Nagar)

The daily The Nation; Lahore, March 5, 2017

Chenab Nagar: Encroachments profuse; authorities reluctant

The daily Khabrain; Lahore, September 21, 2017

MC Chenab Nagar increases water tax from Rs 1050 in June 2016 to Rs 1800 w.e.f. June 2017

The daily Islam; Lahore, November 15, 2017

Chenab Nagar is a centre of terrorists. A grand operation should be undertaken after sealing the town: AMTKN (Khatme Nabuwwat)

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, November 27, 2017

#### c. Anti-Ahmadiyya rhetoric

High ranking Qadianis are involved in incidents of terrorism: APC (in Madrassah Ulum al Sharia)

The daily Islam; Lahore, February 20, 2017

After his resignation Dr Salam was Science Advisor to the state of Israel till death, and he stole Pakistan's atomic secrets and passed them on to imperialists. Op-ed

The daily Islam; Lahore, August 11, 2017

Qadiani Jamaat should be banned: Maulana Ilyas Chinioti (PML (N) – MPA)

The daily Islam; Lahore, April 20, 2017

The Jewish lobby is using Qadianis for malicious aims against Pakistan: Zahid Mahmud Qasimi (IKNM)

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, September 13, 2017

Qadianis plan huge conspiracy against Muslims at world level. The nation should remain alert: Pir Atiq ur Rahman (of AJK)

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, September 22, 2017

Qadianis should announce faith in the End of Prophethood to escape disgrace and shame (*Zillat wa Ruswai*): Pir Atiq ur Rahman (AJK)

The daily The News; Lahore, April 1, 2017

The dogma of End of Prophethood is the most important (aham) and fundamental (bunyadi) of our faith (iman): Pir Saifullah Khalid

The daily Jang; Lahore, July 21, 2017

Qadiani lobby also active to repeal Articles 62 and 63: Maulana Ropari (Jamaat Ahle Hadith)

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, August 11, 2017

September 7 is the brightest day in Islam's history: Maulana Ghulam Mustafa (of AMTKN)

The daily Din; Lahore, September 18, 2017

In the context of national security, Qadianis holding Green Cards and dual nationality should be kept under vigilant surveillance: Fazl ur Rahman (JUI)

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, November 1, 2017

It is extremely crucial to crush the Qadiani mischief: Maulana Ghulam Mustafa

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, December 9, 2017

Qadianis are enemies of Islam and Pakistan. One who considers them Muslims is himself a traitor to Islam and the Constitution.

The daily Din; Lahore, December 18, 2017

Students' database should be obtained from the Qadianis' educational institutions in Chenab Nagar: (Mulla) Shabbir Usmani (of IKNM)

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, December 29, 2017

#### d. The militant mulla

451 suicide explosions in 15 years; 6922 martyrs, more than 15,000 injured (Awaz News)

The daily Awaz; Lahore, April 7, 2017

Cleric threatens ministers' families during Friday sermon at sit-in (in Islamabad)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 11, 2017

The cursed Aasia should be dispensed deterrent punishment: Labbaik Ya Rasul ullah conference (in Multan)

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, August 5, 2017

Suicide attack on Fatehpur Tomb (in Balochistan) claims 18 (later 21) dead including 2 policemen; 40 injured

The daily Mashrig; Lahore, October 6, 2017

Suicide attack in Lal Shahbaz Qalandar Tomb 60 (+28) visitors martyred, more than 250 injured

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, February 17, 2017

Suicide explosion in Parachinar. 22 dead; more than 70 injured.

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, March 1, 2017

Carnage at Parachinar market; 25 killed, 87 injured

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 22, 2017

Car bomb kills 24, injures 95 in Parachinar

The daily The News; Lahore, April 1, 2017

26 die as Senate deputy leader survives bomb attack in Mastung

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 13, 2017

Police case registered against Shan Taseer son of the slain governor, for defiling religions

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 4, 2017

Maulana Abdul Aziz (of Lal Masjid, Islamabad) acquitted even of the last criminal case

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 24, 2017

Ministry (Federal, Interior) rejects Sindh's request to proscribe 94 seminaries

The daily The Nation; Lahore, January 13, 2017

On Saturday (Jan: 28), citing lack of evidence, an anti-terrorism court in Lahore acquitted 115 people charged with torching over 100 houses belonging to Christians in the city's Joseph Colony(Lahore)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 1, 2017

IHC ruling: Lal Masjid caretaker's name struck off Fourth Schedule

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, January 17, 2017

Bomber traumatizes Lahore; police bear brunt of attack. Blood, bodies and fire at Charing Cross.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 14, 2017

76 pc of seminary buildings in Islamabad unauthorized

The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 21, 2017

Suicide attack on census team: 7 killed including 5 troops; 20 injured (in Lahore)

The daily Mashrig; Lahore, April 6, 2017

Sami (JUI-S) claims role in release of girls kidnapped by Boko Haram

The daily The News; Lahore, May 10, 2017

Para Chinar: 13 injured die in addition. Total soars to 67 (in suicide attack); 246 injured

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, June 25, 2017

Lahore plunges into mourning. Nine cops among 26 killed in suicide blast. TTP claims responsibility.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 25, 2017

More than 3000 policemen martyred in fighting the war on terrorism, including 700 in the Punjab

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, August 4, 2017

Expose of brain-washing by banned organizations in Punjab educational institutes. (Targeted) students are financially supported.

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, May 18, 2017

(Fazl of JUI) Defends decision to include in (MMA) alliance people who were once members of banned organizations

The daily Islam; Lahore, November 17, 2017

Protestors' bid to besiege (Interior Minister) Ahsan's residence foiled

The daily The Nation; Lahore, November 23, 2017

Faisalabad aftershocks hit Lahore. Life comes to a standstill as angry mobs assault police, commuters, journalist.

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, November 26, 2017

Islamabad sit-in: Operation – intense battle between forces and demonstrators; 5 dead, numerous vehicles set on fire, hundreds injured

- Roads blocked in many cities. Stoning on police. Rawalpindi and Lahore lawyers come out in support of demonstrators.
- Army Chief phones PM and advises peaceful measures to lift sit-in
- News TV channels, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube shut down

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, November 26, 2017

DIG, two other policemen martyred in suicide attack

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 10, 2017

9 dead, over 50 injured in attack on Quetta church

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 18, 2017

If KN criminal is not brought forth, we'll bring the country to a halt. 65 ready to resign (their Assembly seats): Khawja A Taunswi

The daily 92 News; Lahore, December 5, 2017

Disclosure of torture cells by Faizabad sit-in participants

Pitiless violence imposed; no regard even for grey beards

Robbed of wireless sets, mobile phones

Participants well-trained; carried modern weapons and staffs with nails

The daily Insaf; Lahore, December 4, 2017

#### e. Statements on record

One who plays around with Khatme Nabuwwat law will call for his death. Fazlur Rahman (JUI)

The daily The News; Lahore, October 9, 2017

Pervaiz Ilahi meets Fazlur Rahman in Makka; agree on no compromise over Khatme Nabuwwat

The daily Din; Lahore, October 5, 2017

An eye witness of the incident (of lynching Mashal of Mardan University) stated that both Mashal and Abdullah were accused of proselytizing in favour of Ahmadiyya sect on Facebook; however both denied any link with Ahmadiyya sect.

The daily Din; Lahore, April 14, 2017

We shall not permit the government function for a minute that tinkers with 295-C (blasphemy law): Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat (MTKN)

The daily Insaf; Lahore, April 22, 2017

Do away with separate voters list for Ahmadis: UN

The daily Insaf; Lahore, August 7, 2017

Religious freedom under attack in Pakistan: Tillerson

The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 17, 2017

Christian man sentenced to death over WhatsApp text

The daily Dawn; Lahore, September 16, 2017

We shed crocodile tears over Rohingya Muslims (plight) but deny rights to our own people: Supreme Court

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, September 19, 2017

Our fight is against those who attempt to put an end to Islamic identity. I proudly call Taliban my sons (*Farzand*): Samiul Haq (JUI-S)

The daily 92 News; Lahore, September 22, 2017

Ulama themselves do not consider Qadianis as Non-Muslim: Rana

They offer Salat, observe fast, build mosques, call Azan; a fatwa is something else.

Qadianis do not call themselves Non-Muslims: Provincial Minister on private TV

TV Channel 92 News; October 12, 2017

(Mulla) Ilyas Chinioti meets Imam Ka'aba Dr Al-Sudais (of S. Arabia)

The daily Jang; Lahore, January 25, 2017

Apex Committee Punjab decided on crackdown without discrimination on terrorists and their facilitators. NAP guarantee for peace; we'll put an everlasting end to terrorism: Shahbaz Sharif

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 6, 2017

All departments of the administration have failed to block funding of the banned organization: Justice Dost Mohammad (of SC)

The daily Jang; Lahore, February 16, 2017

The government should cleanse its ranks, cabinets and assemblies of (terror) facilitators, at the earliest: Kaira (of PPP)

The daily Mashrig; Lahore, February 18, 2017

Religious seminaries outnumber schools in Islamabad

The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 18, 2017

Iftikhar Chaudhri – Shame on you, you made political not judicial decisions. I had said that a political judge aims at becoming president: Zardari

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, March 25, 2017

Ehsanullah Ehsan says TTP and JuA (Ahrar) received remuneration for every activity they carried out in Pakistan.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 27, 2017

Lahore: Punjab government has strongly denied the allegations that it is pursuing a policy of discrimination against Ahmadiyya Community and providing patronage to groups targeting the religious minority.

Nation.com.pak/newspaper.picks/31-Mar-2017/government denies

Father blames (Mardan) university officials, police for Mashal's killing

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 25, 2017

The sectarian cobra was deliberately nourished: Milli Yakjehti Council

The daily Khabrain; Lahore, July 16, 2017

Qadianis are declared enemies (*khule dushman*) of Islam and Pakistan. Their headquarters are in Tel Aviv. We shall spare no sacrifice to defend the belief in end of prophethood (KN): Awais Noorani, secretary general JUP

The daily Jinnah; Lahore, October 18, 2017

We shall sacrifice hundreds of thousand lives on KN: Dr Mubashir Ahmad (JI)

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, October 21, 2017

KP info minister (Shah Farman of PTI) bombasts Zahid Hamid for 'declaring Ahmadis Muslims'

https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2017/11/15ik.inf

"... This country, its parliament, government and armed forces are here to safeguard the finality of prophethood," he (the Interior Minister) assured.

The Daily Times; Lahore, November 18, 2017

Sharif disqualified over conduct unbecoming: SC (Judgment) says ex PM tried to fool parliament, court and people by being evasive, non-committal.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 8, 2017

Protection of End of Prophethood and Rejection of Qadianiyat will be added to the AJK Interim Constitution Act 1974

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, December 14, 2017

Sit-in leader was not interested in End of Prophethood but end of government: Ahsan Iqbal
The daily Pakistan; Lahore, December 10, 2017

World War III to be fought in sub-continent: JUI-F Senator

The daily The News; Lahore, December 6, 2017

#### f. Foreign and NGOs

Ahmadi religion leader assaulted in Bangladesh. His condition is serious.

The daily Aman; Faisalabad, May 11, 2017

Ahmadi worship place violently targeted in Ireland days after London attack

http://nation.com.pak/international/07-Jun-2017/ahmadi-

Indian mob kills two Muslim men over suspected cow theft

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 2, 2017

Gunman mows down 39 New Year revelers in Istanbul club

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 2, 2017

Six die in Canada mosque gun assault

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 31, 2017

Suu Kyi slams Rohingya 'fakenews'

The daily Dawn; Lahore, September 7, 2017

6 JI leaders in Bangladesh sentenced to death over 1971 war crimes

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, November 23, 2017

Trump sworn in as 45th US president

Declares from now on it is only America first; pledges to unite world against radical Islam; protests turn violent in Washington.

The daily The News; Lahore, January 21, 2017

Egyptian court awards 5 years imprisonment to false claimant of being Imam Mahdi

The daily Aman; Faisalabad, February 28, 2017

More than 200 mosques attacked in Europe and UK in past 12 months

J Werleman, columnist, on social media

Suicide bomber kills 50 in Nigeria mosque

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 22, 2017

33,293 migrants died due to European curbs, says newspaper (Der Tagesspiegel) The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 11, 2017 EU court rules workplace headscarf ban legal The daily The Nation; Lahore, March 15, 2017 Adityanath as CM signals BJP's step for Hindu state (in India): CPI-M The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 20, 2017 Blasts at Egypt churches kill 44; emergency declared The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 10, 2017 Xinjiang tougher rules against veils, 'abnormal' beards The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 2, 2017 First Arab-Islamic conference today. 54 heads including Trump (of US) will participate. The daily Pakistan; Lahore, May 21, 2017 Town in (US) that denied mosque permit to pay \$3.25m sum The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 31, 2017 Saudi Arabia: King Salman nominates his son Crown Prince in lieu of his nephew The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 22, 2017 Saudi Arabia, five others sever ties with Qatar in diplomatic crisis The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 06, 2017 12 Pakistan-origin and 12 India-origin candidates win (in UK elections) The daily Express; Faisalabad, June 10, 2017 Top Europe court upholds full-face veil ban in Belgium The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 12, 2017 Saudi funding extremism in UK, says report The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 6, 2017 30,000 prisoners were killed without trial on Imam Khomeini's orders: Disclosure in Iran by ex-intelligence official The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 20, 2017 Indian villagers lynch two Muslims carrying cattle The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 28, 2017 10 (Islamists) get death sentence for plot to kill Hasina (the BD PM) The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 8, 2017 Iran sentences founder of mystical Shia 'cult' to death The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 28, 2017 13 dead as van rams crowd in Barcelona 'terror attack' The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 18, 2017 N Korea warns of N-war as Trump says US is 'locked and loaded' The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 12, 2017 Algeria: Supreme Islamic Council (SIC) given more powers. SIC played key role in neutralizing Qadianis' apostate activities in Algeria. The daily Islam; Lahore, September 14, 2017 1,25,000 Rohingya (Muslims) arrive in Bangladesh for protection The daily Jang; Lahore, September 6, 2017 US approves sale of \$15 bn missile system to S. Arabia The daily Dawn; Lahore, October 8, 2017 UNSC drops Myanmar resolution (over Rohingya's persecution) after China's objection The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 7, 2017 US condemns 'ethnic cleansing' of Rohingya The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 23, 2017

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 28, 2017

Butcher of Bosnia (R. Mladic) jailed for life

Corruption or rebellion! 11 Saudi princes including son of Abdullah, dozens of ministers arrested; commander-in-chief navy dismissed.

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, November 6, 2017

Nuclear war is a 'tantrum away', warn Nobel Peace Prize winners

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 11, 2017

US: 15 years imprisonment to one who threw Haram meat in (Florida) mosque

The daily92News; Lahore, December 14, 2017

#### g. Political

Even death is welcome in bondage to the prophet... All parliamentarians including the Speaker who supported or signed the (Election) Bill are *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (must be put to death). Those who will hang Zahid Hamid, the law minister and his colleagues will be crowned in gold... Those who tinker with shaheed Bhutto's constitution have no right to live."

Ad in the daily Aman; Faisalabad, October 7, 2017

Minister behind change of Khatm-i-Nabuwwat oath be ousted: Shahbaz

The daily Dawn; Lahore, October 5, 2017

Rana Sanaullah is a former spokesman of Qadianis. Why is he not disowned by the rulers: Chaudhri Pervaiz Ilahi (PML-O)

The daily Abtak; Lahore, October 15, 2017

90% of MPs corrupt, alleges Dasti (himself an MP)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 21, 2017

Finance Minister Dar declared absconder

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 22, 2017

Religious parties (Siraj ul Haq of JI) announce revival of MMA

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, November 10, 2017

Sit-in ends after Punjab govt clinches deal with Tahrik-i-Labbaik faction

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 3, 2017

Yet another prime minister (Nawaz Sharif) comes to grief

- In a stunning verdict, SC disqualifies PM for not declaring income from UAE-based capital FZE to ECP
- NAB given six weeks to file references against PM's children, Dar and Capt. Safdar
- Probe ordered into 16 Sharif family companies
- Nawaz out, Shahbaz in

The daily Dawn; Lahore, July 29, 2017

8 soldiers among 15 martyred in Quetta blast

The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 10, 2017

Shahid Khaqan Abbasi elected 28<sup>th</sup> prime minister of Pakistan. Nawaz Sharif will be a prime minister again: (Abbasi's) address

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, August 2, 2017

It's time to wave goodbye to US aid: Shahbaz

The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 26, 2017

Sindh rejects Census figures; calls APC

The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 26, 2017

Nawaz is a liar; Imran is deceitful, a puppet; banned organizations participated in Lahore (by-) election: Bilawal Bhutto

The daily Jang; Lahore, September 21, 2017

Assets of Nawaz Sharif, Hassan, Hussain and Maryam Safdar frozen. Arrest warrants of Finance Minister issued.

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, September 21, 2017

LNG deal, mother of all robberies; 200bn rupees' corruption: Sh. Rashid

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, October 12, 2017

People, not court, gave real verdict: Nawaz

The daily The News; Lahore, October 5, 2017

Gulalai sees Imran behind Tahrik-e-Labbaik sit-in (at Faizabad) "Imran Khan has close ties with the Taliban", the MNA from South Waziristan told reporters...

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, November 16, 2017

Circumstances are heading for 'minus all': Sunni Ittehad Council

The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, November 13, 2017

15 from Punjab murdered in cold blood in Turbat (Balochistan). Bodies were thrown around in hills.

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, November 10, 2017

Maryam reacts to Panama Papers judgment with guns blazing

The daily Dawn; Lahore, November 8, 2017

Outrage after US accepts Jerusalem as Israel's capital

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 7, 2017

Sami (of JUI-S) says alliance with PTI will block victory of 'secular forces'

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 7, 2017

#### h. Miscellaneous

First death penalty over 'online blasphemy' (by an ATC in Bahawalpur, Pb.)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 11, 2017

ATC indicts four for blasphemy on social media

The daily Dawn; Lahore, September 13, 2017

Pakistan elected to UN rights body (HRC)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, October 17, 2017

Man absolved of blasphemy charges after nine years in prison

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 30, 2017

Disappearance of activists echoes in Senate

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 14, 2017

Fake pir violates 6-year old boy, chops his head and arms and buries him in wilderness (near Lala Musa, Punjab)

The daily Express; Faisalabad, May 6, 2017

Rs 2.9 m being spent on CM, governor (of Punjab) every day: Rasheed (Leader of Opposition)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, June 6, 2017

Lawyers barge into court, shout slogans against LHC Chief

Police do not intervene, saying that they want to avoid a clash with lawyers

The daily Dawn; Lahore, August 3, 2017

Pakistan in debt of \$84bn. Corruption cases will be followed up to their logical end: Chairman NAB

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, November16, 2017

Threats to internet landscape on the rise in Pakistan: report (Internet Landscape of Pakistan 2017)

The daily Dawn; Lahore, December 23, 2017

#### i. Op-eds

#### Op-ed: A murder in Nankana

Though that unbearable tragedy had led to the formation of NAP – which included some measures in the direction that Nawaz Sharif has now indicated – the overall situation on the ground in the context of sectarian animosities and extremism has not changed. This is so despite the success achieved in military operations against terrorists.

The contradictions we have to contend with were evident when Nawaz Sharif asked the clerics to provide a counter-narrative to defeat the terrorists. It is reported that during the prime minister's speech in Jamia Naeemia, slogans were raised in favour of Mumtaz Qadri, the executed murderer of Salman Taseer.

The Nankana murder must be seen in the perspective of the persecution of the Ahmadiyya community. It has a long history and its narration would explain some of the salient features of what has gone wrong in our evolution as a nation.

A sad aspect of how our society is wounded by the hatred against communities or individuals in the name of religion is that major political parties and leaders have no time to think about these issues. They remain passionately engrossed in their partisan squabbles.

Ghazi Salahuddin in The News International, April 02, 2017

#### Op-ed: Pakistan, Land of the Intolerant

Karachi: Pakistan – This country has a poor record of protecting its religious minorities, but we outdo ourselves when it comes to Ahmadis. Members of the sect insist on calling themselves Muslims, and we mainstream Muslims insist on treating them like the worst kind of heretics.

Muhammad Hanif, Contributing Op-ed Writer, in the New York Times on October 19, 2017

#### Op-ed: Terminology in journalism

AN item in the press appearing some days ago under the headline 'Ahmadi professor found murdered', drew attention to the challenges of news coverage, especially news related to crime.

Such a report could have been given quite a few other headings. For instance, the heading could have been 'A woman found murdered'. The common reaction in our male-dominated society might have been 'poor thing'. But it would not be comparable to the shock if the victim had been a man.

The heading could also be, 'A professor found murdered'. In this case, the response might have included a tinge of regret over the loss to students and the problem caused to the teaching institution.

A shrug of the shoulders would perhaps have been the response to the news of an Ahmadi professor being murdered, because the death of an Ahmadi might be perceived as no loss. One might have even blamed the Ahmadis for disturbing a peaceful order by being targeted every now and then. ...

IA Rehman in the Dawn, May 11, 2017

#### Op-ed: The vigilante menace

Many people suspect that the zealots are commanded by someone in authority.

. . .

Until recently the vigilante groups had concentrated on persecuting the members of the Ahmadi community and the Hazaras of Quetta, Professional Ahmadi-baiters soon entered the field. At one time, a majority of complaints against Ahmadis in Sindh were filed by a single preacher in a town near Hyderabad. The offences varied from writing 'Bismillah' in a private letter to preaching the Ahmadi faith. These complaints ended when the complainant was promoted and posted in a bigger city.

In Punjab too, several professionals won distinction for targeting Ahmadis who were merely delivering their monthly paper, duly registered, to subscribers, or who had made the mistake of buying a goat in the days preceding Eidul Azha. The latter were accused of planning to offer a sacrifice on Eid. In one case, the police not only hauled up an Ahmadi for slaughtering a lamb, but also used the mutton recovered from his house as case property. One of the biggest feats of the anti-Ahmadi vigilante group was frightening the chief election commissioner in 2002 into registering the Ahmadis on a separate list while other voters were being put on a single electoral roll regardless of their belief. ...

The government has traditionally hesitated from proceeding against vigilante groups because they use a religious cover. There is nothing religious about their objectives or their conduct. The whole thing is political. One proof of this is their aversion to any scholarly debate on their heresy and forcing of ulema who disagree with them into exile or retirement at home. What the government must realize is that the visible targets of vigilante action are pawns in a game in which the real target is the state and the system that it swears by. While the vigilante brigade is a threat to individual victims, it is a menace to the state. The harm it could do is incalculable.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 2, 2017

# Op-ed: Between dictators and democrats, Pakistan's Ahmadis continue to suffer

...The sequence of events is quite predictable from now onward. The murderer (of Advocate Lateef, Ahmadi) will gain cult following in Punjab. Judges will hesitate to pass the maximum sentence for his crime. The victim and his community will be slandered and abused in the media to gain the maximum benefit for this criminal and his facilitators, the clerics.

The main outfit behind most anti-Ahmadi violence in Pakistan is the Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN). Various AMTKN publications reveal how much this organization and its various allies are historically involved in the so-called Afghan 'jihad'. Their current focus, in addition to their bread and butter anti-Ahmadi propaganda, is targeting of the secular thought leaders in Pakistan.

Soon after her first election in 1988, Benazir Bhutto visited the Saudi king, assuring him of her allegiance to the Kingdom. A daughter of a Shia mother from Iran, Benazir had to establish her credibility as a legitimate leader of a majority Sunni state. She continued with the Zia doctrine of pro-jihad policy in exchange for Saudi economic support.

Just like Malik Saleem, Benazir was also assassinated by a religious fanatic. Her political career now defined not only by her appearement of the clergy, but by also by her unfortunate demise by the very forces she helped nurture during her rule.

It is common knowledge that not all Saudi money was coming through proper channels. A lot of it was donated directly to various religious outfits to train the Mujahideen and promote Wahhabi Puritanism in Pakistan. Along with a host of other anti-Shia organizations, AMTKN has been a beneficiary of this funding. Clerics associated with AMTKN travel all over Pakistan and even overseas to mobilize their followers against the Ahmadis. In dozens of mob attacks in recent years, AMTKN affiliated clerics have taken active criminal activities against the community.

Sundayguardianlive.com/opinion/9080-between

#### Op-ed: Jinnah, Rohingyas and Pakistan

... Of course it is heartening to see Pakistanis taking a stand on the issue. Injustice anywhere must be condemned. However, Pakistan too has many skeletons in its closet. Perhaps not as blatantly as Myanmar but certainly as effectively, the Pakistani state has progressively since 1974 disenfranchised its hapless Ahmadi community. The difference here of course is that Ahmadis have not resorted to any agitation but if they were to agitate, I am sure, they would be subjected to nothing less than a genocide by Pakistan's extremely radicalized Muslim majority. Instead Ahmadis are being dispatched in Pakistan through slow burn and churn. Persecuted by unfair laws such as the anti-Ahmadi Ordinance XX of 1984, a significantly large part of their population lives in exile today, just like Rohingyas. Almost every other month, some Ahmadi or the other is killed by religious fanatics who are just as bloodthirsty as the Buddhist monks in Myanmar.

Of course Ahmadis are not the only community suffering in Pakistan. ...

Yasser Latif Hamdani in Daily Times; September 11, 2017

### Op-ed: Captain Safdar's demagoguery

It would be far too easy to dismiss Captain Safdar's rant about Ahmadis as simply insensitive, boorish and ignorant. For the latter knew what he was doing: he was wooing his powerful religious constituency with the poisonous flattery of the demagogue. Bluntly put, he was trying his best to achieve personal and political goals by pandering to the forces of bigotry, hatred and extremism. All of which malign the name of the country, society and Islam. The Qur'an censures religious hypocrites thus: "Among the people there is he whose discourse on the life of the world pleases you, and he calls on God as witness to what is in his heart, yet he is an unyielding and antagonistic adversary. When he turns and leaves, he walks about corrupting the earth, destroying crops and livestock — God loves not corruption (Q2:204–205)."

Since the 1970s, Pakistan has been blighted by violence, mostly perpetrated by Sunni extremist groups against the Shia minority. However, the latter is not the only sect being targeted by such forces in Pakistan. Ahmadis, Hindus, Christians and even Barelvi Sunnis are all on the receiving end of this Sunni brutality; which simply adds to the image (and reality) of Pakistan as a hotbed of extremist violence. Religion has been weaponised in the service of majoritarian political objectives; while ordinary people are marked for extermination based on their sectarian affiliations or sympathies. Within this context, Captain Safdar's comments, which serve to further inflame communal divisions, deserve nothing less than the very strongest condemnation. Ultimately, the best way out of the extremist morass that the country finds itself stuck in — rests in a secular government guaranteeing equal rights for religious minorities.

The Daily Times, October 15, 2017

#### Op-ed: Chader, etc. (a comment on the Islamabad sit-in)

This is not merely a rally, or a show off; neither is it a drama – there is a need to put an end to this mischief (Ahmadiyyat) forever. Claimants to the love of Mustafa (Muhammad PBUH) do not care for their lives. This is a gathering of lovers of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). These lovers do not care for their lives. It is only those who are crazy after the Prophet that sit out in the open in such intense cold.

Bushra Rahman in the daily 92 News; Faisalabad, November 22, 2017

#### Op-ed: Will the 'drama' be played again

...These days it is being demanded all over that every grade 22 officer be told to sign the Khatme Nabuwwat affidavit. (But) why should the public servants of Grade 1-21 be exempted? On what basis? ...

The Khatme Nabuwwat affidavit should not be mandatory for only Grade22 officials but it should be so from Grade 1 onward. It is violation of not only the Constitution of Pakistan but also of Sharia to exempt grade 1 to 21 officials from signing the Khatme Nabuwwat affidavit.

SM Ali in the daily Islam of December 17, 2017

#### Op-ed: A complicit state

A historical overview of the country where religious groups of one hue or the other have played their role in collusion with the state to turn it into the hybrid-theocracy of today.

The recent agreement enforced upon the political government is nothing but a small reminder that Pakistan has turned into a hybrid-theocracy where sharia law is gradually being applied indirectly. What, perhaps, stands between this situation and a complete morphing into a sharia-governed state is the difference of opinion between the right wing leadership from varied sects. Despite being aligned with permanent institutions of the state, the Ahl-Hadith, Deobandi and now Barelvi leadership have competing perception of sharia and its implementation. Thus, no matter how much the liberal voices may echo the plight of Ahmadis or even Shias in the country, the conditions for these groups are not about to change. ...

Now, it does not matter anymore if sharia is formally applied or not. Between Khadim Rizvi and Orya Maqbul Jan, the state is theirs to claim.

Ayesha Siddiqa in <a href="http://tns.thenews.com.pk/complicit-state/#.WiNs6tKWbct">http://tns.thenews.com.pk/complicit-state/#.WiNs6tKWbct</a>

#### **Op-ed:** Dangerous games, dangerous implications

The Deobandi/Salafi/Wahabi /Ahle Hadith militants have been attacking shrines and terming Sufis/Barelvis as poly-theists. On the other hand, the Barelvis and caretakers of shrines, who – as opposed to the early Sufis – do not believe in the 'unity of existence between the creator and the created', consider Deobandis and Salafis as blasphemers who do not consider the primacy of the Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) in reaching out to Allah. Both sides apostatize one another. A single spark or clash or attack can ignite a prairie fire of sectarian warfare among the two larger strands within the Sunnis.

The current political crisis in Pakistan has the potential to degenerate into anarchy and an internecine sectarian conflict. The communalization of politics will devastate non-religious mainstream political parties and leave little space for democratic discourse and constitutional polity. The state and its institutions as well as mainstream non-religious political parties must consider this communal scenario before they move ahead with the next phase of their petty power games. It's time to call the bluff of communalists before it all gets out of control of everybody. Let the mainstream parties agree on not in any way flirting with sectarian outfits and let the government and the state end its patronage of religious extremism.

*Imtiaz Alam in thenews.com.pk/print/255727-dangerous-games-dangerous-implicatons* 

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#### 10. Conclusion

Overall, it was a bad year in the context of persecution of Ahmadis in the country. It was even unfortunate and regrettable. A commendable effort was made to restore an important fundamental right to Ahmadis – the right of vote. The Act, having passed by the Parliament, had been signed by the President. But then, the mulla protested, the parliamentary opposition joined in for political gain, and the rulers immediately raised hands, almost apologised and withdrew what was right and laudable. The state was back on its slipway of decline.

The rulers made no effort to correct some of the past wrongs, although these were all do-able. They persistently and unabashedly supported the mulla at the cost of Ahmadis. In fact, enormities were added to the running totals. Sentencing three Ahmadis to death for tearing an anti-Ahmadiyya poster was one of these.

Lack of freedom of religion and denial of human rights remained a pipe dream for Ahmadis in Pakistan. The problem for the state is now bigger than the mere plight of Ahmadis; it is now the plight of the state itself. The mulla, Allama Rizvi type, of Islamabad sit-in fame, has succeeded in making the state partly dysfunctional, and is expecting to take it over to fill the gap provided by the corrupt democratic establishment.

#### **December 31, 2017**

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# Particulars of Police Cases Registered on Religious grounds against Ahmadis during 2017

S.No.	Number	Names of Accused	Police Station	FIR No.	Date	Penal Code	Remarks
1	1	Shahbaz Ahamd Bajwa	Yazman Saddar, Distt. Bahawalpur	31	19/02/17	PSO 2017	
2	2-3	Amjad Iqbal Salooni, Ikram Ilahi	Iqbal Town, Lahore	245	15/03/17	295-A, 298- C	In Prison
3	4-43	40 Ahmadis of Dulmial, District Chakwal	Choa Saydan Shah, District Chakwal	65	24/03/17	302, 324, 337F(VI), 337F(III), 337A(I), 148 and 149	
4	44	Muzaffar Ahmad	Satrah, Distt Sialkot	1/23	03/05/17	107/151	
5	45-64	Tariq Azeem, Sarfraz Ahmad, Mohsin Faheem, Azeem Akhtar, Shafiq Ahmad, Irfan Ahmad, Sarfraz Ahmad, Atif Ahmad, Ateeq Anjum, Ijaz Ahmad, Ali Habeeb, Iftikhar Ahmad, Naeem Asgar, Idrees Ahmad, Jahanzaib Ahmad, Waheed Asif, Naseer Ahmad, Muhammad Nasrullah, Naeem Ahmad, Shareef Ahmad	Lathianwala, Distt. Faisalabad		11/10/17	407/451	
6	65-66	Naseer Ahmad Farooqi, and President of Sadr Anjuman Ahmadiyya	Quetta City	140	11/10/17	419, 420, 427, 34	
7	67-73	Tahir Mahdi Imtiaz, Abdul Sami Khan, Ihsanullah Danish, Shahid Mehmood Ahmad, Rashid Mehmood Minhas, Nafees Ahmad Ateeq, Amir Faheem	Gujjar Pura, Lahore	1061	25/10/17	295-A, 298- C, 11-W ATA	
8	74	Naveed A. Khan	Rabwah		23/10/17	T.P. 337H2	
9	75	Muhammad Zafrullah	Syed Wala, District Nankana		01/11/17	337/H, 34/B, 11- 20/65	
10	76-77	Arif Ahmad, Amir Ahmad	Sahiwal, Distt. Sargodha		17/11/17	107/151	

**Penalties forPPCs:** 302 – death; 295-B – imprisonment for life; 295-A – ten years' imprisonment; 324 – seven years' imprisonment; 337-F(VI) – seven years' imprisonment; 451 – seven years' imprisonment; 407 – seven years' imprisonment; 419 – seven years' imprisonment; 420 – seven years' imprisonment; ATA 11-W – 7 years' imprisonment; may be tried in anti-terrorism court; 298-C – three years' imprisonment; 148 – three years' imprisonment and fine; 337-F (III) – three years' imprisonment; 337-H – three years' imprisonment; 427 – two years' imprisonment; 149, 34 – penalty as in main offence; 14 Punjab Security – six months' imprisonment and fine

## **Updated Statistics of the Police Cases**

# registered against Ahmadis on religious grounds, in Pakistan (From April 1984 to Dec 31, 2017)

NO.	Description of cases	Total number of cases	
1	Number of Ahmadis booked for displaying Kalima, i.e. "There is none worthy of worship except Allah, Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah"	765	
2	Number of Ahmadis booked for calling <i>Azan</i> , call to prayers	38	
3	Number of Ahmadis booked for 'posing' as Muslims	447	
4	Number of Ahmadis booked for using Islamic epithets	161	
5	Number of Ahmadis booked for offering prayers	93	
6	Number of Ahmadis booked for preaching	815	
7	Number of Ahmadis booked for celebrating Ahmadiyya Centenary in 1989		
8	Number of Ahmadis booked for celebrating 100 years' anniversary of the eclipses of sun & moon that occurred in 1894 as a sign for the Promised Mahdi, i.e. Founder of the Ahmadiyya Community		
9	Number of Ahmadis booked for distributing a pamphlet 'Ek Harf-e-Nasihana' i.e. 'A Word of Advice' commenting upon anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX		
10			
11	Number of Ahmadis booked for allegedly defiling the Holy Quran	46	
12			
13	Number of named Ahmadis booked in other cases on religious grounds	1164	
14	Former Supreme Head of the Community while living in London was charged in his absence in sixteen cases.	16	
15	Present Supreme Head of the Community while living in London	2	
16			
17	A case against the entire Ahmadi population of Ahmadis in Kotli, was registered for taking up repairs and improvement in their mosque in 2008		

## **Statistics of other Human Rights violations**

(From 1984 to December 31, 2017, except where mentioned otherwise)

•	Number of Ahmadis killed	
•	Number of Ahmadis target-killed this year	4
•	Ahmadis assaulted for their faith	379
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques demolished	27
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques sealed by the authorities	33
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques set on fire or damaged	22
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques forcibly occupied	17
•	Number of Ahmadiyya mosques, construction of which was barred	
	by the authorities	58
•	Ahmadis' bodies exhumed after burial	39
•	Burial of Ahmadis was denied in common cemetery	66
•	Number of incidents of Kalima removal from Ahmadis' houses and shops	43
•	Number of incidents of Kalima removal from Ahmadis' mosques	103

The Government of Punjab has banned the entire written works of the founder of Ahmadiyyat as also the publishing of the Qur'an and its translations by Ahmadis.

All open air rallies and conferences of Ahmadis in Rabwah, the Ahmadiyya headquarters town in Pakistan, have been under a ban since April 1984 after the promulgation of anti-Ahmadiyya ordinance. Even sports events organized at the community level have been prohibited by the authorities.

### Laws specific to Ahmadis, and the so-called blasphemy laws

#### **Anti-Ahmadi laws**

- I. PPC 298-B. Misuse of epithets, descriptions and titles, etc; reserved for certain holy personages or places. (1) Any person of the Qadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or by any other name) who by words, either spoken or written or by visible representation:
- a. refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a Caliph or companion of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) as 'Ameerul Mumineen' 'Khalifa-tul-Mumineen', Khalifa'tul'Muslimeen', 'Sahaabi' or Razi Allah Anho
- b. refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a wife of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) as 'Ummul Mumineen'
- c. refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a member of the family (Ahle-bait) of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), as *Ahle-bait*; or
- d. refers to, or names, or calls, his place of worship as 'Masjid': shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.
- 2. Any person of the Qadiani group or Lahori group (who call themselves Ahmadis or by any other name) who by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation, refers to the mode or form of call to prayers followed by his faith as 'Azan' or recites Azan as used by the Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, and shall also be liable to fine.
- II. **PPC 298-C. Person of Quadiani group etc, calling himself a Muslim or preaching or propagating his faith.** Any person of the Quadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or by any other name), who, directly or indirectly, poses himself as Muslim, or calls, or refers to, his faith as Islam, or preaches or propagates his faith, or invites others to accept his faith, by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representations, or in any manner whatsoever outrages the religious feelings of Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.

#### The blasphemy laws

PPC	Description	Penalty		
295	Injuring or defiling places of worship, with intent	Up to two years' imprisonment or		
	to insult the religion of any class	with fine or with both		
295-A	Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage	Up to ten years' imprisonment, or		
	religious feelings of any class by insulting its	with fine, or with both		
	religion or religious beliefs			
295-B	Defiling, etc. of Holy Quran	Imprisonment for life		
295-C	Use of derogatory remarks, etc; in respect of the	Death and fine		
	Holy Prophet			

### An op-ed by Mohsin Hamid in the daily Dawn of June 27, 2017

#### **Fear and Silence**

#### Why are Ahmadis persecuted so ferociously in Pakistan?

The reason can't be that their large numbers pose some sort of 'threat from within'. After all, Ahmadis are a relatively small minority in Pakistan. They make up somewhere between 0.25 per cent (according to the last census) and 2.5 per cent (according to the Economist) of our population.

Nor can the reason be that Ahmadis are non-Muslims. Pakistani Christians and Pakistani Hindus are non-Muslims, and similar in numbers to Pakistani Ahmadis. Yet Christians and Hindus, while undeniably discriminated against, face nothing like the vitriol directed towards Ahmadis in our country.

To understand what the persecution of Ahmadis achieves, we have to see how it works. Its first step is to say that Ahmadis are non-Muslims. And its second is to say that Ahmadis are not just non-Muslims, but apostates non-Muslims who claim to be Muslims. These two steps are easy to take any individual Pakistani citizen has the right to believe whatever they want about Ahmadis and their faith.

But the process goes further. Step three is to say that because Ahmadis are apostates, they should be victimised, or even killed. We are now beyond the realm of personal opinion. We are in the realm of group punishment and incitement to murder. Nor does it stop here. There is a fourth step. And step four is this any Muslim who says Ahmadis should not be victimised or killed, should themselves be victimised or killed.

In other words, even if they are not themselves Ahmadi, any policeman, doctor, politician, or passerby who tries to prevent, or just publicly opposes, the killing of an Ahmadi, deserves to die. Why? Because anyone who defends an apostate is themselves an apostate.

This is what the persecution of Ahmadis achieves. It allows any Muslim to be declared an apostate. For the logic can be continued endlessly. When an Ahmadi man is wounded in an attack and goes to a hospital for treatment, if the doctor agrees to treat him, she is helping an apostate, and therefore she becomes an apostate and subject to threats. When a policeman is deputed to protect the doctor, since she is an apostate, the policeman is helping an apostate, so he too becomes an apostate. And on and on.

The collective result of this is to silence and impose fear not just on the few per cent of Pakistanis who are Ahmadis, or even on those who are Christians and Hindus, but on all of us. The message is clear. Speaking out against the problem means you are the problem, so you had better be quiet.

Our coerced silence is the weapon that has been sharpened and brought to our throats.

This is why Nawaz Sharif's statement in defence of Ahmadis met with such an angry response. Because the heart of the issue isn't whether Ahmadis are non-Muslims or not. The heart of the issue is whether Muslims can be silenced by fear.

Because if we can be silenced when it comes to Ahmadis, then we can be silenced when it comes to Shias, we can be silenced when it comes to women, we can be silenced when it comes to dress, we can be silenced when it comes to entertainment, and we can even be silenced when it comes to sitting by ourselves, alone in a room, afraid to think what we think. That is the point.

https://www.dawn.com/news/844186

## Bigotry and hate-promotion - Pakistan style

The picture below of a donkey cart with a lengthy message written on its back-board went viral in Pakistan on social media. The message is in Urdu; it is anti-Ahmadiyya, a pack of lies, highly abusive and provocative. Its translation:

A Qadiani is a creature more cunning than a fox, more dangerous than a snake, more shameless than a swine, sheds more false tears than a crocodile, more foolish than a donkey, more coward than a jackal, darker than night, more ignorant than Abu Jahl, enemy of humankind, a product of Jews, brother of *Dajjal* (Anti-Christ), and a product of falsehood and deceit.

Police officers should be brave like Mehr Nabi Bux.



### An ad by a PPP leader, in the daily Aman; Faisalabad, Oct 7, 2017





Translation (extract): "Even death is welcome in bondage to the Prophet...All parliamentarians including the Speaker who supported or signed the (Election) Bill are *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (must be put to death). Those who will hang Zahid Hamid, the law minister and his colleagues will be crowned in gold. Those who tinker with Shaheed Bhutto's constitution have no right to live." **Haji Sheikh Afzal** ...

## Offensive Ahmadiyya mock grave in a street



#### (Translation)

- One who is a friend of Qadianis, is infidel, infidel indeed.
- One who denies the Prophet, is an enemy of Islam.
- We salute declaring the Qadiani dogs as Non-Muslims.
- Even death is acceptable in the slavery of the Prophet (P B U H). If there is no love of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) this life is waste.

  Tajdar e Khatm e Nabuwwat Long live

## **Hostility and boycott promoting pamphlet**

قادیائی دنیا کے بدتریں کافر قادیوں کی گیری ، معومات، ڈاکٹرد ، میران، ویک، اور دیگر بِاکِتَانِی کُوسِی مِشِیرِی شِی شِالِ اور دیگر اخباری اور ٹی وی ایگرد سے کی فیر شن چار کریں جاکہ ان کادنجوں ، اور مر دائی اوالا المذي ساى و الله و معاشى معاش قى و القيادى ير طرح كا بالكاف کے ان پر پاکان کی مقدی م دیکی کو بھی کردیا ہے، پنجاب آئل ملز لمیٹڈ اٹھی قادیانیوں کی ہے ذا نقتہ بناسپتی ، آئل بھی اٹھی کے ہیں کینولیو آئل اور بناسیتی بھی انھی کے ہیں آو سی ایس کوریئر سروس بھی قادنیوں کی ہے ڈاک اور دیگر اشیاء تبھیجنے کے لیے ریٹ کم ہونے کی وجہ سے پاکستان میں کافی مقبول ہے یونیورسل سیشلائیز اور دیگر بونیورسلز کی الیکر تکس اشاء بھی اٹھی کی ہیں شاہنواز فلور ملز اٹھی کی ہے شاہنواز ٹیکٹائیل ملز بھی سبھی اٹھی کی ہیں تاج فلوز ملز انھی کی ہیں کیوریٹو کمپنی ہومیو پینھک کی اٹھی قادیانیوں کی ہے الرجيم جيولرز والے كراچى تك يمي لوگ ہيں رومی ٹربولز والے بھی قادیانی ہیں کینٹ کراچی میں

(Translation)

#### Qadianis are the worst infidels of the world

A list of Qadiani companies, products, doctors, hospitals, lawyers, and others who are employees of the Pakistan government, as also of TV and newspaper journalists should be prepared, so that, these Qadianis and pro-Mirzais could be boycotted in social,

(continued)

political, communal and financial fields. Their life should be made unbearable in this sacred land of Pakistan.

There are custards, and Kheer etc of Shezan. Shezan Restaurant is owned by Qadianis.

Punjab Oil Mills Limited also belongs to these Qadianis.

Zaiqa Banaspati and Oil also belong to them.

Canola Oil and Banaspati also belong to them.

OCS courier service also belongs to the Qadianis; it is popular in Pakistan for its low rates of dispatching mail and items.

Universal Stabilizers and other electronic products of Universal also belong to them.

Shahnawaz Flour Mills also belong to them, Shahnawaz Textile as well.

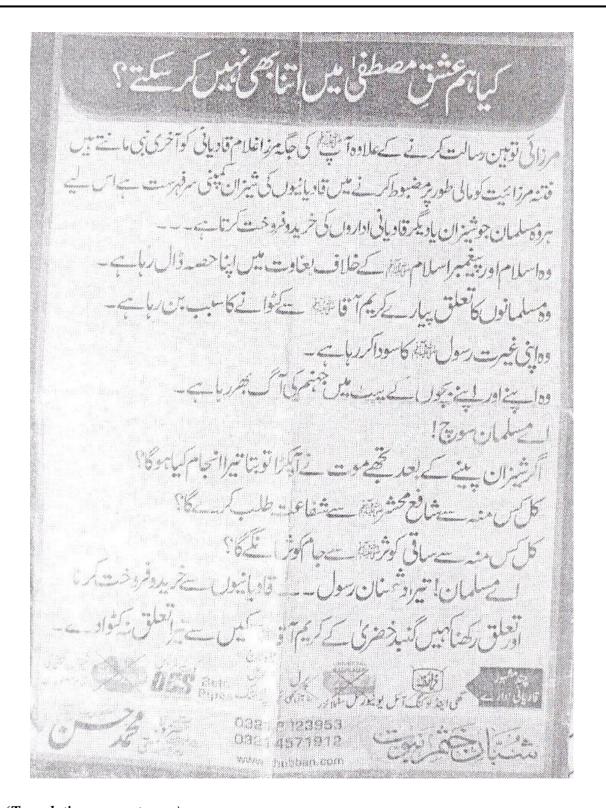
Taj Flour Mills also belong to them.

Curative Company of homeo medicines also belongs to these Qadianis.

Al-Raheem Jewellers upto Karachi belong to these people.

Roomi Travels in Karachi Cantt are also Qadianis.

## Hateful pamphlet promoting boycott of Ahmadiyya products



(Translation on next page)

## Can we not do even this for the love of the Prophet?

In addition to comitting blasphemy, Mirzais (Ahmadis) believe Mirza Ghulam Qadiani to be the last prophet instead of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). Shezan comapany owned by Mirzais is in the forefront in strengthening financially the evil of Qadianiat. That is why every Muslim who deals with Shezan and other companies of Qadianis is:

- Playing his part in rebellion against Islam and the Holy Prophet (PBUH).
- Responsible for breaking Muslims' link with the dear Holy Master (PBUH).
- Compromising his devotion to the Holy Prophet (PBUH).
- Is filling his own and his family's tummies with hell fire.

#### O Muslim, consider!

- What will be your end like if you die soon after drinking Shezan?
- How will you seek intercession of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on Doomsday?
- How will you ask for the Holy Drink from the Sagi (PBUH) at the Holy Fountain?

O Muslim! your dealing with Qadianis may cut off your relationship with the Holy Master (PBUH) of the Green Tomb.

#### A few famous Qadiani companies:

Shezan drinks

Zaiga cooking oil

**Universal Stablizers** 

Pearl Oil

Shahtaj Sugar Mills

Beta Pipes

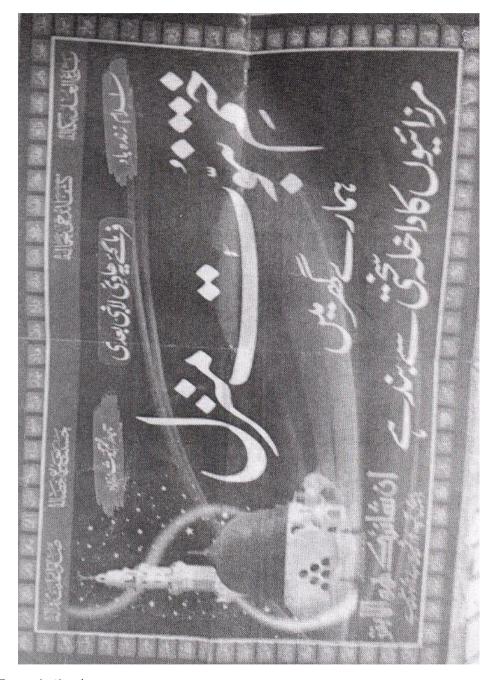
OCS

Shezan Company products

From: Hadhrat Maulana Muhammad Hassan, Shubban Khatm e Nabuwat

www.shubban.com 0321- 4571912, 0320-0123953

## Hateful poster for a residential entrance



(Translation)

Khatm e Nabuwat Lodge

Mizais are strictly prohibited from entering our home