



HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION
AHMADIYYA MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS

Persecution of Ahmadis IN PAKISTAN

Monthly Report
May 2021

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Highlights

THE PERILS OF BEING AN AHMADI IN PAKISTAN

Mr Shahzad Akbar - Advisor to the Prime Minister, has lodged an FIR against his party member for accusing him of being an Ahmadi, which has put his reputation and security at risk. Read the detailed account of how it is considered a major liability to be labelled as an Ahmadi and imagine the plight of the one who is an Ahmadi and is unwilling to hide his identity.

OPPOSITION IN THE PUNJAB PROVINCE

The report includes some incidents that happened during the month. The arrest of an innocent Ahmadi in Okara increased tensions in the village. A simple renovation work at Ahmadiyya mosque resulted in unrest in Sargodha. A violent mob obstructed the burial of an Ahmadi lady in Gujranwala. The incidents portray the challenges Ahmadi face daily.

HEARING ON THE TRIAL OF THREE AHMADIS

On the day of the hearing on the trial of Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad, the opponents sought the addition of Section 295-C (it carries the death penalty) to the case, arguing that books of the founder of the Ahmadiyya community were allegedly recovered from them — as if possession of Ahmadiyya Founder books by Ahmadi is itself a criminal act.

PLIGHT OF THE FAMILY OF AN AHMADI WHO WAS KILLED FOR HIS FAITH

An ordeal of forty years of continued persecution that a family faced in Peshawar, the capital city of KPK province, a long history of hiding their identity and moving homes several times. The head of the family got martyred earlier this year. The eldest son - a gold medalist and lecturer of Sarhad University and Al-lama Iqbal Open University, unveils their sufferings as the events unfolded during his lifetime. He is 35 now, and his mother does not allow him to go back to the city he loved.

DID YOU KNOW?

AHMADIS FACE THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT UNDER FEDERAL LAWS FOR:

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

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

SEE PAGES 7 & 10 FOR DECLARATIONS & OATH

THE PERILS OF BEING AHMADI IN PAKISTAN

Lahore; May 29, 2020: The daily Dawn published the following report (extracts):

Shahzad Akbar files case against Tareen group MPA for statement 'endangering' his life

A first-information report (FIR) was registered against Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) MPA Nazir Chauhan, who is part of the party's estranged Jahangir Khan Tareen group, on the complaint of Adviser to the Prime Minister on Interior and Accountability Mirza Shahzad Akbar on Saturday.

According to the FIR, which has been registered at Race Course Police Station in Lahore and a copy of which is available with Dawn.com, Akbar accused Chauhan of making allegations concerning the former's religious beliefs during an appearance on a television channel, adding that these statements had put his life at risk.

The FIR has been registered under sections 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation), 189 (threat of injury to public servant), 298 (making statements with deliberate intent to wound religious feelings) and 153 (provoking to cause riot) of the Pakistan Penal Code.



Shahzad Akbar (Advisor to the Prime Minister)

"The offence has been committed to cause injury to the reputation, body, property and mind of the applicant and cause hatred in public at large towards the applicant," the FIR states.

It further says that Chauhan committed "the offence with the nefarious design to wound the religious feelings of the applicant".

Akbar has alleged in the FIR that Chauhan's motive is to discourage him from playing a proactive role in curbing corruption and ensuring accountability in Pakistan.

"The applicant has been subjected to similar allegations in the past because he is performing his duties in a vigilant and responsible manner and the intent of the accused is to forbear the applicant from the exercise of his lawful functions," the FIR states.

It adds there is a likelihood that Chauhan's "unfounded, false and vexatious" allegations will provoke "religious hatred" and endanger Akbar's life.

In response to the registration of the FIR and Akbar seeking legal action against the PTI MPA, Chauhan has maintained that he is ready to fight the case.

Following these developments, Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry showed support for Akbar in a message on Twitter.

"Using religion card for personal vendetta is despicable [and] Lahore Police must take strict action against Nazeer Chohan MPA for using third-rated tactics," he tweeted.

In turn, Akbar thanked Chaudhry, saying that "hypocrisy and religious bigotry esp of [the] corrupt should have no space in public".

The PTI's Jahangir Khan Tareen group, of which Chauhan is a part, has named Akbar behind the victimization of Tareen in a sugar scam case....

In plain language, Mr. Chohan accused his target Mr Akbar of being an Ahmadi, to worsen him in a big and easy way. Mr. Akbar got an FIR registered with the police. It is reproduced as annex to this report. In his complaint, Mr. Akbar stated that, "the offense of (accusation) has been

committed to cause injury to the reputation, body, property, and mind of the applicant and caused hatred in public at large towards the applicant which has endangered the life of the applicant There is all likelihood that these unfounded, false, and vexatious allegations **will provoke religious hatred against the applicant and put his life in danger**" (Emphasis added).

Obviously, a fake or a real 'Qadiani' is exposed to the above-mentioned risks, according to the Advisor to the Prime Minister.

شہزاد اکبر کی وضاحت کے بعد اسے قادیانی کہنا قطعاً درست نہیں ہے

الزام لگانے والوں کو معذرت کرنی چاہیے

کسی مسلمان کو قادیانی کہنا اور کسی قادیانی کو مسلمان کہنا شرعاً درست نہیں ہے

چیئرمین پاکستان علماء کونسل و نمائندہ خصوصی وزیر اعظم پاکستان برائے بین المذاہب ہم آہنگی و مشرق وسطیٰ حافظ محمد طاہر محمود اشرفی نے کہا کہ سے کہ کسی بھی مسلمان کو قادیانی کہنا یا کسی قادیانی کو مسلمان کہنا شرعی اور قانونی طور پر درست نہیں ہے۔ شرعی احکامات کے مطابق کسی مسلمان کو کافر کہنے والا خود کافر ہو جاتا ہے۔ قادیانی شریعت اسلامیہ اور آئین پاکستان کے مطابق دائرہ اسلام سے خارج ہیں لہذا کسی مسلمان کو سیاسی مقاصد کیلئے قادیانی کہنا کسی بھی طور پر درست قرار نہیں دیا جاسکتا۔ شہزاد اکبر نے جب اپنے عقیدے کی وضاحت کر دی تو اس کے بعد ان پر قادیانی ہونے کا الزام لگانا کسی بھی طور پر درست قرار نہیں دیا جاسکتا۔ الزام لگانے والوں کو اپنے اس عمل پر معذرت کر لینی چاہیے۔

مجلس اہل سنت والجماعہ اشرفی

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The incident caused great commotion in the media. Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi, Prime Minister's Representative on Religious Harmony, Chairman Pakistan Ulama Council then came to the help of his fellow 'minister' and issued a sort of edict or a statement (placed above in original vernacular). He stated (translation):

"Declaring any Muslim a Qadiani or calling a Qadiani a Muslim is contrary to the Shariah as well as the law. As per Shariah anyone who calls a Muslim an infidel becomes an infidel himself. Qadianis, as per Islamic Shariah and Constitution, are outside the pale of Islam; as such declaring any Muslim a Qadiani, for political gain cannot be justified in any way." He added that Mr. Shahzad Akbar had already explained his belief, so it was incorrect to accuse him of being a Qadiani. He urged the accusers to apologize for

their actions.

Mr. Nazir Chohan MPA, in a video clip, persisted in agitating religion for his stand, "This question was put to the Chief of Army Staff, and also to the Prime Minister of Pakistan and he had to make his position clear in the days of Dharna (sit-in) that it (the accusation) was not true and this was a fabrication against him. Who is Shahzad Akbar! Shahzad Akbar is 100% Qadiani. I say this openly in this program, which I did not mention before. Shahzad Akbar is Qadiani; he is Qadiani; his entire record is found in Rabwah You have to ask him about his opinion about Mirza Qadiani; This is my Pakistan; this is Muhammadan Pakistan; this is Prophet's (PBUH) Pakistan; we'll never allow Qadianis to rule over it," he asserted.

Mr. Shahzad Akbar is probably right to get apprehensive for his safety and report the bully to the police. But imagine the plight of one who is actually an Ahmadi, and is unwilling to hide his identity.

On 29 May, TV Bol in its Breaking News reported this story and showed Mr. Chohan in a video clip saying, "I said something simple. Now it is becoming an issue (Afsana). I'll thereby fight the battle to the end." In the same Breaking News, the news reader asked Mr. Samee Ibrahim, a 'senior analyst' his opinion. He expressed his concern over the development and assessed it a threat to the society, as it would promote extremism. However, he came up with a bizarre suggestion that now as the issue has become live, Mr. Akbar should announce (on media) or issue a statement that he is not a Qadiani, nor he has any links with Qadianis, and he believes the Holy Prophet (Nabi Pak) to be the last prophet." Incredible compromise!



Nazir Ahmad Chohan (MPA Punjab)

LATEST FROM DISTRICT OKARA

Chak 3/SP, District Okara; May 2021: Mr. Mansoor Ahmad Tahir was booked in a police case with FIR No. 217 under 16 M.P.O. at police station Haweli Lakha, District Okara on March 31, 2021, and was arrested. The plaintiff alleged that Mr. Tahir passed negative remarks about his religious ceremony.

In response to protest and march by the opposition, the SHO added more fateful Section 295-A to the charge sheet; it carries a penalty of ten-year imprisonment and fine.

Opposition to Ahmadis has gained momentum in the village since the incident. Locals have socially boycotted the family of Dr. Muhammad Iqbal and his brother Javed Anwar. For a week after the incident, the villagers held meetings aimed at evicting Dr. Iqbal and Mr. Anwar from the village. The police advised Dr. Iqbal to close down the clinic in view of the situation.

The opponents planned to file more cases and expel Ahmadis from the village. On the night

of May 1, 2021, some unknown persons broke into the Ahmadi missionary's house and stole clothes and belongings from the house. However, no great damage was done, as there was not much to steal.

On May 2, 2021 a man came to Dr. Iqbal's house allegedly for treatment and told him to open the door. He left threatening when the doctor did not consider it safe to attend him.

In this situation, Ahmadis contacted the DPO who issued instructions to provide security to the victims and facilitate the opening of Dr. Iqbal's clinic. The police assured security.

Mian Ayaz Nasir Jundika Kharal, Advocate pleaded Mr. Tahir's bail application. After this, the miscreants have joined hands to oppose him in the Depalpur Bar and an attempt is being made to register baseless police cases against him.

Mr. Tahir is behind bars since March 31, 2021. The magistrate rejected his bail. He has now applied for bail in the sessions court.

A YEAR IN PRISON SEEKING BAIL

Lahore; May 2021: Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad and others were booked on May 26, 2020 with FIR Nr. 29/2020 at Police Station FIA Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 120-B, 109, 34 R/W, 2016-PECA-11. If declared guilty they could be imprisoned for life. Pakistan's Cyber Crimes Department, Lahore that works under Federal Investigation Agency conducted a raid on the house of Mr. Rohan Ahmad in Wapda Town, Lahore, arrested and reportedly tortured him.

Temporary bails of the two other accused, Hafiz Tariq and Malik Usman Ahmad were not confirmed so they were also arrested on September 30, 2020.

Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad are currently imprisoned

at Camp Jail, Lahore.

The trial of the three prisoners is underway in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Lahore, Mr. Rafaqat Ali.

May 8, 2021, was the date of the hearing. The opponents sought the addition of Section 295-C to the case, arguing that blasphemy law should be applied as Roohani Khazain (books written by the founder of Ahmadiyya Community) were recovered from them. The evidence presented by the opposing party with the challan was incomplete. The judge rejected the defense attorney's request to present the required evidence.

The bail application of the three prisoners is now pending in the High Court. The next given date of hearing is June 17, 2021.

REPAIRS OF AN AHMADIYYA MOSQUE MADE GREATLY PROBLEMATIC

Sillanwali, District Sargodha; May 2021: Repairs were undertaken in the Ahmadiyya mosque in this village. On April 24, the flooring was underway when the material ran short. At the time, a member of the team overseeing the work received a phone call from a security official and then a municipal official, concerning the work. Shortly afterward, the Assistant Commissioner came over and told the workers to stop the work, otherwise, their machine would be confiscated. At this, the workers took their belongings and left. Meanwhile, a group of mullas came over to the spot and tried to gather a crowd at the site. Someone told them that the police had arrived, and they left.

A policeman was sent by the DSP, who inspected the work on the spot and said that work

may be continued but no new construction be undertaken. Thereafter a security agent came over, took a few pictures, and directed the Ahmadis to undertake no new construction.

Ahmadis thereafter persuaded the contractor to continue work. After completing it, when asked to undertake some more work, he flatly refused and said that some mullas visited his house and threatened him and his family over undertaking work for Ahmadis. He said that he told the mullas to let him complete the promised work, for which they gave him two days.

There is still a lot of repair work to be done in the Ahmadiyya mosque but it cannot be undertaken in these circumstances.

BURIAL DENIED TO AHMADI WOMAN

Sejkalar, District Gujranwala; April 12, 2021: Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis have a common graveyard in Sejkalar, District Gujranwala. Six months ago, some non-Ahmadi locals told Mr. Tahir Mahmood, an Ahmadi, to separate their graveyard even by adding a little more land next to his son's grave. He then got built a wall and separated the Ahmadiyya section. The next day, miscreants destroyed the wall and the mulla hurled insults against the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in his Friday sermon. On April 12, 2021, Mr. Mahmood's wife died. The opponents denied her burial in the cemetery. Under these circumstances, her dead body was taken to Bhiri Shah Rehman for the funeral.

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

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

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

STORY OF SHAHZAD AHMAD AND HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY

Ordinarily, our reports mention briefly an incident in which an Ahmadi is target-killed for his faith. We give the name of the victim, the date and time of the attack, its location and sometimes a few sentences on the circumstances in which the murder was committed. These reports do not go deep into the history of the case nor describe in adequate detail the plight of the family, before and after the attack. But archives should contain and provide some narrative to assist future historians, scholars and inquirers in better understanding the whole scenario.

To that end, we provide here the story of one such family, as a sample. Perhaps someone, someday, would write a whole book on such an affected family, but here, again we have to be brief for constraints of space and time. The reader may assess the relevant details on his own.

MR. SHAHZAD AHMAD SON OF MR. ABDUL QADIR OF PESHAWAR KPK, PAKISTAN

Mr. Shahzad Ahmad, 35, has completed an M. Phil. in education with distinction from Sarhad University of Sciences and Information Technology, Peshawar. A promising student from the start, he earned a gold medal each in his undergraduate, masters as well as his postgraduate degree. At the start of 2021, he was teaching at Sarhad University and Allama Iqbal Open University. In the evening, he would commit a few free hours to tuition. His future plans included pursuing his Ph.D. research in Education. However, behind the façade of a normal life was a very fearful and anxious Shahzad. He had lived his life in a place where everyone around him despised him for his faith.

His family had been living in Peshawar for more than 40 years. Including Shahzad, 4 brothers and 5 sisters were born and grew up in the city they loved. The city, however, never loved them back. He recalls facing discrimination and hate even in his school years. Being labeled an infidel or a non-Muslim was something that had become a norm for him and his siblings. In 1997, his father,

Abdul Qadir built a house in the city in the hope of providing a home for his family. Abdul Qadir used to work in a clinic. In 2009, he was severely injured in a targeted attack when at work, but survived miraculously. The family rented out the house they were living in and moved to another town. Shahzad Ahmad recalls how they felt safer there but still feared that someone would come from Peshawar and attack them. For 9 months they stayed there. However, as soon as they felt that things had settled down, they moved back to their beloved city, Peshawar. Initially, they rented a house inside Peshawar University where it seemed safer. However, they had to hide their identity of being Ahmadi, to protect themselves from hateful gazes, but every time, someone would find out, making it impossible for them to continue to live in the same house.

Therefore, in the course of the next eleven years, the family had to change residences 10 times. Shahzad Ahmad recalls, how during the time his siblings were studying in different schools

but were facing similar treatment of hatred and bigotry from fellow students and teachers. Trying their best to hide their identity, some of the younger siblings did not understand the crime they had committed for which they were being so severely punished.

Meanwhile, Abdul Qadir continued to work at the clinic where he was attacked. Although armed guards stood at the gate, Abdul Qadir's wife and children feared for his safety. With each passing day, they became more anxious and afraid. Peshawar was ruled by PTI, Mr. Mahmood Khan in the province and Mr. Imran Khan in Islamabad. The year 2020 saw a new wave of anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda in Peshawar which led to the murder of many Ahmadis in targeted attacks. Abdul Qadir and his family felt petrified. This led to the decision to move some of the members of the family out of Peshawar. Abdul Qadir stayed back and started living in the clinic. Shahzad Ahmad rented a hostel room near Sarhad University where he was teaching, whereas a younger brother Farhan Ahmad resided in a private hostel in the city. The severe persecution and constant fear had led them to this difficult decision of splitting their family; however, the ones that moved out continued to worry for the ones that stayed back.

Then the dreadful day arrived. On February 11, 2021 a youth shot Mr Abdul Qadir in his clinic. The attack proved fatal. The family was shocked and traumatized, Shahzad Ahmad took the body of his deceased father to far away Rabwah for burial. They left behind all their belongings and said goodbye to their beloved city once again.

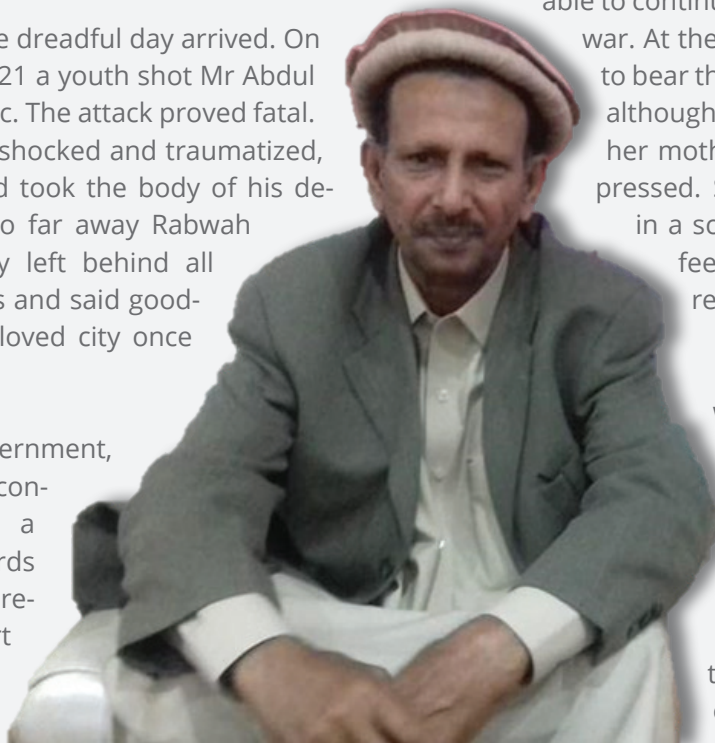
The government, says Shahzad, continues to turn a blind eye towards these atrocities resulting in a sort of support to the ones calling out for

the annihilation of the Ahmadiyya community. He and his family, he says, do not feel safe or protected in Pakistan. Three of his sisters are married and living abroad but were unable to come to Pakistan for their father's funeral due to concern for their safety. His mother, Sajida Begum is living in fear and shock and constantly worries about her children, not allowing them to go back to Peshawar to continue with their jobs. Sajida Begum, Shahzad Ahmad says, is scared of losing another member of the family.

The fear continues to consume the family of Abdul Qadir. Even before his death, his son Ihtisham Ahmad, a graduate student developed severe depression due to the persecution the family was facing in Peshawar. Changing residences and hiding their identity to keep safe took a toll on his mental health so that he had to be admitted to a psychological treatment center in Lahore. In order to protect him, the family has not told him of his father's death.

Farhan Ahmad, another son of Abdul Qadir completed his BBA from Peshawar and was planning to start his MBA before the tragic death of his father. His plans were shattered. The two younger siblings Talha Ahmad and Noor ul Iman were unable to continue with their studies in Peshawar. At the age of 15, Noor ul Iman had to bear the tragic loss of her father and although she puts on a brave face for her mother, she feels unsafe and depressed. Shahzad, himself is teaching in a school in a far away town and feels greatly restricted about career development in Pakistan.

The clinic, their father worked in for decades, has been shut down. Another Ahmadi who was working there saw his house attacked by a large crowd calling for his head. The victim has, since then, left everything behind and moved out of Pakistan.



*Father of Shahzad Ahmad
Dr. Abdul Qadir, was shot dead on Thursday, February 11, 2021.*

SPACE AVAILABLE TO RELIGIOUS MINORITIES!

Lahore; May 4, 2021: *“Our minorities are equal citizens of our country. We shall deal firmly with those who target non-Muslim citizens or their places of worship,”* asserted a VIP on February 26, 2021. We do not name him but mention an incident here that is well recorded in media and is a sample of situation on the ground.

A Christian place of worship inside a mental hospital in Lahore was forcibly occupied by Muslim nurses who then started singing Islamic songs (naat and hamds) therein. These nurses reportedly threatened the Christian staff and said that if they did not convert, a case would be registered against them under the blasphemy law.

Muslim nurses demanded that the hospital administration sack all non-Muslim employees from their jobs. The authorities took no immediate action against the intruders. No case was initiated against them. However, the local administration succeeded in negotiating a peace agreement between the bullies and the harassed.

While sharing a video of the incident on Twitter, journalist Bilal Farooqui wrote, *“Muslim nurses took over the church inside a hospital in Lahore and started reciting naats. They threatened their Christian colleagues that if they do not convert, blasphemy cases will be filed against them.”* At the same time, Pakistani journalist Nayla Inayat also shared this video and said that this was the third major case of blasphemy violence against Christian nurses. She said that this year a case was filed against a nurse in Karachi and another nurse in Faisalabad under the so-called blasphemy law.

The Asianews.it published this story; here are some extracts:

“... On April 29, 2021, three Christian nurses Sakina Bibi, Jessica Khurram, and Treeza Eric were on duty in the Mental Government Hospital, Jail Road, Lahore. They were falsely accused that they were insulting Islam. The incident began the day before when one of the Christian nurses had shared a video of a person in which he had been speaking about the situation of Pakistan due to Tehreek-e-Labaik (TLP) to a WhatsApp group of the medical staff of the hospital. The same video became the source of blasphemous charges against her and two other Christian nurses.

In response, Nursing Superintendent Khalida Suleri organized a group of Muslim staff and went to the church located inside the hospital, said their Islamic prayers, and organized a rally against the Christian staff while threatening Christian nurses.

The hospital church was allocated in 2019, at the request of the Christian nursing staff to the provincial Secretary Health, to allow the staff and patients to celebrate Christmas in the premises of the hospital.

There are 700 employees working in the hospital among whom there are 339 staffers including 105 nurses who are Christian, and they are allowed to pray for 30 minutes once a week, by the hospital administration... .”

Although the incident did not affect and implicate any Ahmadi, it was well recorded and reported, so it is mentioned here to convey the state of religious freedom in the country among non-Muslims and those on whom non-Muslim status is imposed. Islamist bigots have gone berserk and feel free to take the law in their hands.

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

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


(Name & Signature of Voter)

TWEET BY A UK MINISTER

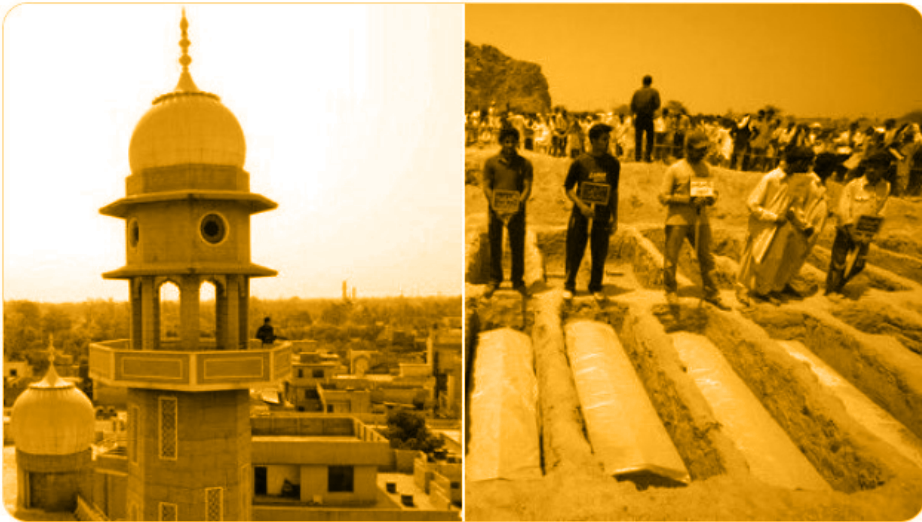
'ONE OF THE HARDEST DAYS OF MY LIFE'

London, May 28, 2021: Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon currently holding the portfolio of Minister for South Asia and the Commonwealth in the UK government tweeted the following on May 28, 2021, the 11th anniversary of twin attacks on Ahmadiyya places of worship in Lahore, the capital of the Punjab:



 **Lord (Tariq)Ahmad of Wimbledon** ✓
@tariqahmadbt

11 years ago during Friday Prayers,86 worshippers in 2 [#Ahmadi](#) Muslim mosques in Lahore Pakistan 🇵🇰 were gunned down in terrorist attacks.We remember& pray for those innocent souls &resolve to stand up for [#FreedomofReligion](#) and unite against hate & division [#Love4AllHatred4None](#)



4:38 PM · May 28, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



AHMADIS BEHIND BARS

1

A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis, Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in Police Station Sharaqpur. Two days later Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. A year later, the deadly clause PPC 295-C was added to their charge-sheet at the suggestion of a high court judge. A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017. Appeal against this decision was then made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to decide the appeal. These three Ahmadis are in prison for six and half years.

2

Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad etc were booked on May 26, 2020 with FIR Nr. 29/2020 at Police Station FIA Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 120-B, 109, 34 R/W, 2016-PECA-11. If declared guilty they could be imprisoned for life. Pakistan's Cyber Crimes Department, Lahore that works under Federal Investigation Agency conducted a raid on the house of Mr. Rohan Ahmad of Wapda Town, Lahore, arrested and tortured him. He is currently at Kot Lakhpat Jail, Lahore.

Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad were arrested on appearance in FIA office, they are in Camp Jail Lahore.

As of May 31, 2021:

- 11 Ahmadis are behind bars solely on account of their faith
- A 20-year-old Ahmadi student is in jail under PPC 295-C, which carries death penalty.
- 3 Ahmadis have been on death row since 2017 and in prison since July 18, 2014
- 1 Ahmadi prisoner died while in police custody in Feb. 2021

3

Mr. Abdul Majeed S/o Mr. Abdul Waheed resident of Shaheen Muslim Town, Taj Chowk, Phandu Road, District Peshawar, aged 20, was accused of blasphemy by a minor named Mr. Imran Ali. The police succumbed to the pressure of the mullas and registered a fabricated case against him under section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code, 1860 which carries sentence of death, on September 10, 2020 with FIR Nr. 648 at police station Phandu, Peshawar. He was arrested on 13.09.2020. He is currently in Peshawar Jail.

5

Four Ahmadis Mr. Muhammad Mahmood Iqbal Hashmi, Mr. Shiraz Ahmad, and two others were booked by Cyber Crime Police Station Lahore on June 20, 2019 under FIR Nr. 88, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11, for allegedly creating a group "Sindh Salamat" and allegedly sharing Ahmadiyya content in it. Mr. Shiraz Ahmad is behind bars for his faith.

4

Mr. Tariq A. Tahir and Mr. Safwan Ahmad were booked in FIR Nr. 83/2020 under blasphemy clause PPC 295-B at P.S. Nagar Parker, Sindh on November 25, 2020. Mr. Tahir was arrested.

6

Malik Zahir Ahmad was arrested on September 30, 2019 by fabricating a case under Sections 298-C, 295-B PECA-11 and 109. He was granted bail on February 23, 2021 and was expected to be released in four to five days after paper formalities. On February 27, when Malik Zahir Ahmad was expected to be released from the Camp Jail, the Cyber Crime Wing Lahore team arrested him under FIR Nr. 88, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11. He was not even formally nominated in the case.

7

Mr. Mansoor Ahmad Tahir was booked in a police case with FIR No. 217 under 16 M.P.O. at police station Haweli Lakha, District Okara on March 31, 2021 and was arrested. The plaintiff alleged that Mr. Tahir passed negative remarks about his religious program which outraged him.

SOME RELEVANT PAKISTAN PENAL CODES

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

295

Up to two years' imprisonment or fine, or both

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

295 A

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

Defiling, etc., of the Holy Quran

295 B

Life imprisonment

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

295 C

Death and fine

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

298

Up to one year imprisonment or fine, or both

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

298 A

Three years' imprisonment, or fine, or both

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

298 B

Three years' imprisonment and fine

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

298 C

Three years' imprisonment and fine

Know the Facts

THIS YEAR SO FAR

- 1 Ahmadi has been murdered in 2021, raising the total to 274 since the promulgation of Ordinance XX
- 7 murder attempts
- 1 Ahmadi prisoner died in custody, he was imprisoned on the basis of his faith.
- 6 Ahmadiyya places of worship have been desecrated
- 45 gravestones have been removed
- 19 new cases have been registered against Ahmadis under PPCs 298, 298-B,C, 295-A,B,C
- Sacred inscription from 15 houses and shops have been removed

AHMADI CENSORSHIP

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

FROM THE MEDIA

- **No compromise on Khatme Nabuwat law: PM**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 4, 2021
- **West cannot dictate decisions, vows (Info) minister**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 5, 2021
- **‘State has failed to implement 2014 SC verdict on minorities rights’: Participants’ view in event to inaugurate a research report, “Justice Yet After”**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 5, 2021
- **Joint effort has to be made against those who incite people to violence of issues of religion or belief: PM**
TV Express, Headlines on May 9 at 21:10
- **Pakistan is the safest country in the world for minorities: Governor Punjab**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 28, 2021
- **No compromise on blasphemy laws: Ashrafi**
The daily News International; Lahore, May 2, 2021
- **EU Parliament moves to review trade ties with Pakistan. Non-binding resolution links GSP+ status to religious freedom, anti-France sentiment. Pakistan rejects criticism of judicial system as regrettable, urges dialogue on issues.**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 1, 2021
- **PM summons important meeting on EU resolution**
The daily Express; Faisalabad, May 3, 2021
- **Army Chief arrives in Saudi Arabia on an official visit. Imran Khan will visit on May 8.**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 5, 2021
- **Zionist army hits 90 locations. 197 martyred. Hamas fires 3100 rockets on Israel, 13 injured. Attacks will continue: Netanyahu**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 17, 2021
- **At least 85 people were killed in the bomb attack – The majority of them are school girls (on 8th May 2021 in Kabul)**
BBC Top Stories on May 19, 2021
- **Will continue to expose conspiracies against the blasphemy laws: AMTKN**
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, May 2, 2021
- **Hundreds of Palestinians wounded in Jerusalem clashes**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 10, 2021
- **Taliban deny govt claim as toll from attack on school rises to 50**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 1, 2021
- **Captain and six martyred in terror attacks in Baluchistan and North Waziristan**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 6, 2021
- **Ashraf Sehrai of (IO Kashmir) dies in Indian custody**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 6, 2021
- **Kashmir’s status must not be altered, says UNGA Chief**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 28, 2021
- **Palestine Day to be held in the country today: Pakistan Ulama Council**
Waseb TV news at 0810 on May 15, 2021
- **Tareen group MPA booked over ‘false allegations’ against PM’s aid**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 30, 2021
- **PM thanks expatriates for sending \$24.26n during first 10 months of current fiscal**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 19, 2021
- **Ex-Finance Secretary Baluchistan awarded 10-year imprisonment and confiscation of property in Mega Corruption scandal**
The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, May 26, 2021
- **Six terrorists of banned TTP and Daesh arrested from Karachi and Sheikhpura**
The daily 92 News; Faisalabad, May 3, 2021
- **Saudi Arabia reveals new archeological discovery, older than Egyptian pyramids**
The daily 92 News; Faisalabad, May 3, 2021
- **Namus-e-Risalat and end of prophethood laws are part of our belief, no other opinion: Pervaiz Elahi**
The daily Insaf; Faisalabad, May 5, 2021
- **Imran asks OIC to counter Islamophobia**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 4, 2021

- France: Bill to ban face-covering tabled, women protests online

The daily 92 News; Faisalabad, May 5, 2021

- Country witnesses massive jump in cybercrime cases

The daily News International; Lahore, May 7, 2021

- CTD set to act against banned TLP's financiers

The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 7, 2021

Op-ed: Islamophobia and Secularism

Prime Minister Imran Khan frequently uses the term 'Islamophobia' while commenting on the relationship between European governments and their Muslim citizens. Khan has often been accused of lamenting the treatment meted out to Muslims in Europe, But remaining conspicuously silent about cases of religious discrimination in his own country.

Then there is also the case of Khan not uttering a single word about the Chinese government's apparently atrocious treatment of the Muslim population of China's Xinjiang province.

Certain laws in European countries are sweepingly described as being 'Islamophobic' by Khan. When European governments retaliate by accusing Pakistan of constitutionally encouraging acts of bigotry against non-Muslim groups, the PM bemoans that Europeans do not understand the complexities of Pakistan's Islamic laws.

Yet, despite the PM repeatedly claiming to know the West like no other Pakistan does, he seems to have no clue about the complexities of European secularism.

Take France for instance. French secularism, called 'Laicite' is somewhat different than the secularism of various other European countries and the US. According to the contemporary scholar of Western secularism, Charles Taylor French secularism is required to play a more aggressive role. ...

Nadeem F. Paracha in the daily Dawn; May 16, 2021

Op-ed: Why are Arabs so powerless?

... The problem is not genetics — Arabs have a brilliant past and are probably just as smart as Ashkenazi Israelis. But the two groups have different attitudes towards success and different role models. The Ashkenazi child wants to be Albert Einstein, Niels Bohr, John von Neumann, George Wald, Paul Samuelson, Gertrude Elion, Ralph Lauren, George Soros, or a thousand other such names that fill textbooks on physics, philosophy, technology, medicine, and business. Compare this with the Arab boy who wants to be Salahuddin Ayubi and the Pakistani lad who dreams of becoming Ertugrul Ghazi on horseback. He does not know about Abdus Salam, our discarded Nobelist.

Pervez Hoodbhoy in the daily Dawn of May 29, 2021

May 29, 2021

Op-ed: Arabic Pakistan?

....The leadership of the federal government and of Punjab, KP and Baluchistan would do well to learn from how the Sindh Government laudably resists surrender to the irrational stress on a language and on rituals in which our society is already rich and replete.

Javed Jabbar in the daily Dawn of May 18, 2021

Annex: Copy of the FIR, on complaint of Mr. Shahzad Akbar, Advisor to the Prime Minister

ابتدائی اطلاع رپورٹ نسبت جرم قابل دست اندازی پولیس رپورٹ شدہ زیر دفعہ 154 مجموعہ ضابطہ فوجداری

تاریخ و وقت وقوعہ: 20-05-2021 12:20 AM		RC-5/29/2021-1681		نمبر: 360/21	
30-05-2021 08:00 AM	6	تھانہ سے روانگی کی تاریخ و وقت	بھولہ رہت نمبر (27)	29-05-2021 01:20 AM	تاریخ و وقت رپورٹ
<p>مرزا شاہزاد اکبر ولد مرزا محمد اکبر، پتہ: مکان نمبر B-47، سڑک نمبر 38، سیکٹر ایف ٹین فور، اسلام آباد</p> <p>شناختی کارڈ نمبر: S-1444039-37401 فون نمبر: 03315090612</p> <p>مرتبہ مرسلہ: برضا عباس SI/SHO تھانہ ریس کورس لاہور</p>			نام و سکونت اطلاع دہندہ مستثنیت		
<p>بگڑی</p> <p>506 تہہ</p> <p>189 تہہ</p> <p>298 تہہ</p> <p>153 تہہ</p>			محضر کیفیت جرم (معد دفعہ) و مال اگر کچھ کو گنیا ہے		
<p>از کینال روڈ بول نیوز پلاسٹہ قریب 2 کلو میٹر جانب جنوب</p> <p>پتہ نمبر: 01 GOR-1</p>			جائے وقوعہ و قاصد تھانہ سے اور سمت		
<p>حسب آمد تحریر درخواست مقدمہ درج رجسٹر ہوا</p>			کارروائی متعلقہ تفتیش اگر اطلاع درج کرنے میں کچھ توقف ہوا تو اس کی وجہ بیان کی جائے		

دستخط: مہتاب احمد خاں پتہ نمبر: T/SI مہدو: T/SI ٹیلی فون نمبر: 03007214499
(ابتدائی اطلاع چھ درج کریں)

Station House Officer (SHO) Race Course, Lahore Date 20.05.2021 Subject: APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF FIR AGAINST ACCUSED NAZIR CHOCHAN 1. The applicant is a respectable citizen of Pakistan and currently Advisor to the Prime Minister on Accountability and Interior. The applicant is aggrieved of offences committed by Mr. Nazir Chohan (MPA from PP- 167) on 19.05.2021 while appearing on Bol Ns at 12: 20 AM. M. Chohan falsely a. with maliciously alleged that the applicant is "Qadiani and does not believe that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is last Prophet of Almighty and further that he belongs to the Ahmadya Community. Contrary to the false and vexatious allegations made, the applicant is a practicing Muslim and has firm, steadfast and unshakable belief in the finality of the Prophethood.. (Transcript is attached with the application at Annex.) 2. The said offence has been committed to cause injury to the reputation, body, property and mind of the applicant and cause hatred, in public at large towards the applicant which has endangered the life of the applicant. The accused has committed this offence with a nefarious design to wound the religious feelings of the applicant. Moreover, being aggrieved of the steps applicant has taken to curb on corrupt activities in Pakistan, accused's motive is only to discourage the undersigned from the pro-active role he is playing in curbing corruption and ensuring accountability in Pakistan. 3. The applicant has been subjected to similar allegations in the past because he is performing his duties in a vigilant and responsible manner and the intent of the accused is to forbear the applicant from exercise of his lawful functions. There is all likelihood that these unfounded, false and vexatious allegations will provoke religious hatred against the applicant and put his life in danger. As this clip is viral on social media, it can provoke public at large resulting in social unrest as well. 4. In view of the above, it is humbly request. that Police may take legal action and register FIR against the accused Nazir Chohan and strict action may be taken against him for committing heinous offences Mirza Shahzad Akbar CNIC No. 37401-1444039-5 Phone No. 0331-5090612

506/189/298/153 تہہ پائی جاتی ہے مقدمہ درج کر کے اصل درخواست مع نقل FIR انویسٹی گیشن ونگ ارسال کی جاتی ہے

T/SI مہتاب احمد خاں
29-05-2021

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

DECLARING AHMADIS AS NON-MUSLIMS

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


ORDINANCE XX

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


HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION

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