



BRIEFING UPDATE

PERSECUTION OF AHMADI MUSLIMS IN PAKISTAN

AUGUST 2022



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www.StopThePersecution.org



Headlines

AHMADI MUSLIM STABBED TO DEATH

On 12 August an Ahmadi Muslim man was brutally stabbed to death on grounds of faith, in Rabwah, Pakistan - home to the headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The perpetrator was raising religious slogans at the time of the incident.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE DETAILS.

AHMADI MUSLIM MOSQUE DESTROYED

Ahmadi Muslims in Jhelum were forced by extremists of the group TLP (Tehreek Labaik Pakistan) to destroy and remove its minarets as it was against the law.

Upon raising this with the local police, Ahmadi Muslims were instructed that if they did not cave into extremist pressure, there would be no guarantee of protection by the police against the violent mob.

SEE PAGE 4 FOR MORE DETAILS.

GRAVEYARD DESECRATED

An extremist mob desecrated 16 Ahmadi Muslim graves in Faisalabad.

Ahmadi Muslims informed the police about the incident, however no action has been taken against the perpetrators. Ahmad Muslims are denied the right to rest in peace after death. Ahmadi families are routinely barred by local extremist clerics from burying their loved ones at the local cemetery.

SEE PAGE 5 FOR MORE DETAILS.

DID YOU KNOW?

AHMADI MUSLIM FACE THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT UNDER PAKISTAN FEDERAL LAWS FOR:

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

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

STABBED TO DEATH FOR HIS FAITH

On 12 August an Ahmadi Muslim man was brutally stabbed to death on grounds of faith, in Rabwah, Pakistan - home to the headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The perpetrator was raising religious slogans at the time of the incident.

A religious fanatic, reported to be Hafiz Muhammad Shahzad Hasan Sialvi Rivi, fatally stabbed an Ahmadi Muslim man by attacking him several times with a dagger.

60-year old Mr Naseer Ahmad was at a bus stop in Rabwah, when the attacker pressured him to chant slogans including a slogan in praise of Khadim Hussain Rizvi, the late founder of the extremist party Tehrik Labbaik Pakistan (TLP).

Upon Mr.Ahmad's refusal to comply, the perpetrator attacked him with a dagger and killed him on the spot whilst uttering "Whosoever abuses the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) should be killed". The perpetrator was arrested on the spot. Mr. Ahmad, who had no enmity with anyone, is survived by his widow and three daughters.



The perpetrator, is reported to be a graduate of Anwar-ul-Quran Madrassa (religious school) of Police Station Muhammad Wala in Punjab.

This brutal murder in broad daylight at the hands of a religious fanatic is deeply worrying and reflects the impact of the anti-Ahmadi hate campaign that has been rife for decades with no action taken by the authorities to tackle this issue, despite the extremists being known to the authorities.

The population of Rabwah consists of 95% Ahmadi Muslims and even there Ahmadi Muslims live in constant fear of their safety.

Hundreds of Ahmadi Muslims have been murdered in Pakistan on grounds of faith, and the past year has seen a sharp increase in Ahmadi Muslim mosques being attacked. More than 120 graves have been desecrated by the authorities and extremists in 2022 alone, with no action taken by the authorities to end this hatred and stop such attacks.

We urge the Government of Pakistan to prosecute the perpetrator for this brutal murder. and Offer urgent protection to all Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan from further attacks of violence and harm.

AHMADIS COMPELLED TO REMOVE MINARETS FROM THEIR MOSQUE

شیر امیر المجاہدین محمد عاصم اشفاق
رضوی صاحب کی طرف سے اہم اعلان

آج مورخہ 31 اگست رات 12 بجے تک کا وقت ہے اگر قادیانیوں کی عبادت گاہ سے وہ نشانیاں ختم نہ کی گئی تو جہلم کی تاریخ کی سب سے بڑی کال دی جائے گی اور میں خود اپنے ہاتھوں سے وہ نشانیاں ختم کرونگا



Translation: An Important Announcement from Rizvi Sahib (hate cleric): If by midnight, 31st August, all the visible Islamic symbols are not removed from the Qadiyani place of worship, there will be a call-up (for demonstration) and that will be the largest call-up in the history of Jehlum, and I will remove those symbols with my own hands.

Mityal, District Jhelum; August 30, 2022: Extremists displayed anti-Ahmadi posters, against which Ahmadi Muslims submitted complaints to the police force requesting legal action. Police tried to take down the posters, but supporters of the extremists group TLP stopped them from doing, gathering outside the police station and started shouting slogans.

TLP members complained to the police that Ahmadi Muslims had built their place of worship on the main road and installed traditional Muslim minarets that resemble those on mosques.

They defaced the mosque by writing the words "Tehreek Labaik Ya Rasoolullah" on the wall of the washroom as an insult. This was used as evidence by the TLP also to suggest blasphemous activity was committed (although it was written by the members of TLP, which was later erased by the police).

TLP demanded registration of a police case against Ahmadis or removal of the minaret from their mosque. They were reassured by the police, and the crowd dispersed at around 3 o'clock. Consequently, Ahmadi Muslims were asked to remove minarets, which they refused to do as it was a violation of their beliefs.

The police threatened Ahmadi Muslims and ultimately were forced to remove the minarets as the police made clear that they would not be protected from mob violence.

AHMADI GRAVEYARD DESECRATED IN FAISALABAD

**Chak 203 RB Manawala, District
Faisala-bad; August 21-22, 2022:**

An extremist mob desecrated 16
Ahmadi Muslim graves in Faisalabad.

Ahmadi Muslims informed the police
about the incident, however no action has
been taken against the perpetrators.

Ahmadi Muslims are denied the right to
rest in peace after death. Ahmadi families
are routinely barred by local extremist
clerics from burying their loved ones at
the local cemetery. As a result, many
families are forced to travel long distances
to put their loved ones to rest. There have
also been reports of deceased bodies
being exhumed — sometimes under
police orders — from their graves on
grounds that the burial was in a ‘Muslim’
graveyard. A number of reports also
suggest that the police actively assist
extremist clerics in destroying Ahmadi
Muslim gravest.

Since January 2021, 235 graves have been
desecrated, 173 of these were during
2022.

CHAK 203 RB MANAWALA



TENKI WALA QABRASTAN



THREAT TO AHMADI MOSQUE

District Faisalabad; August 2022:

On February 19, 2022, a police case was registered against four Ahmadi Muslims in Dijkot police station by extremists for building minarets and writing the Kalima (profession of the Islamic faith) on their local mosque.

The police asked Ahmadi Muslims to remove the minaret and the Kalima.

The police maintained its pressure upon the local community by threatening the four arrested Ahmadi Muslims with cancellation of their bail and inclusion of their names in the Fourth Schedule.

On August 7, Ahmadi Muslims met with police leadership to agree a way forward on this issue.

Ahmadi Muslims offered to raise the perimeter wall of the mosque to cover the Kalima and minarets so as not to offend locals who had lodged the complaint.

This suggestion was rejected by the police and they remain adamant that both the minarets and Kalima must be removed.



MOB ATTACKED AHMADI FAMILY

District Sahiwal; August 6, 2022:

Mr. Shamshad Ahmad's father Mr. Abdul Shakoor was a Pakistan soldier who died in the 1971 war. The army installed a plaque in recognition of his bravery within his local city. However a violent protest erupted soon after the installation, led by the extremist group TLP.

They were particularly angered by the use of the word 'Shaheed' (martyr), which according to their extreme interpretation is only applicable to Muslims and not an Ahmadi.

The 400 strong mob beat up Shamshad Ahmad (the son of the martyred soldier) and his sister. Family members were barred from escaping the mob by locals and were tortured.

The mob also voiced wishes to stone them, however they managed to escape after significant violence.



Translation: Lance Havildar Abdul Shakoor, Martyred

Unit 30 Punjab Regiment,
Battlefield Eastern Bengal, Pakistan,
Martyred in Pakistan-India War,
1971

Lance Havildar Abdul Shakoor, while valiantly fighting, gave his life in a battle in Comilla sector. He suffered martyrdom while fighting the enemy and has made the nation and country proud till the end of times.

A HIGH PRIORITY EDUCATION ISSUE IN CHINIOT!

Rabwah; August 27, 2022:

These days when Pakistan is facing flood disaster of 'Biblical dimensions', huge economic downturn, political turmoil, sky-high inflation etc., the high-sounding District Education Authority's Chief Executive Officer (CHINIOT) is agitated over faith identity of Ahmadi Muslim students.

He issued an order, No. 2024/(G) dated August 27, 2022, through the District Education Officers to all the stakeholders to verify their records and ensure that 'Ahmadi/Qadiani' students were registered in their own religious synonym. The order threatens surprise visits and warns the concerned authority and Head Teachers with 'strict action' in case of any lapse. Compliance certificate was demanded within 3 days – 'without fail'.

HOSTILITY IN DISTRICT LARKANA

Qambar Ali Khan, District Larkana; August 03, 2022:

Hostility against Ahmadis Muslims has intensified as some people beat up Naseer-ud-din Chandio, an opponent of Ahmadis. He accused the Ahmadis of doing this to him. Later, he got registered an FIR against Imran Ahmed, Ahmadi, his elder brother, and brother-in-law.

Earlier, Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed an Ahmadi, and his family faced hostility due to which they had to migrate. Now Mr. Dilbar Ali is living in Mukhtiar's house. A few days later, two persons got tough with him. The same night, an Ahmadi boy had to face a clash with his neighbor because of his belief. Also, a pamphlet against three Ahma-di families was distributed; it carried pictures of Mr. Mukhtiar and his son along with a statement that whoever identifies these people, his name will be kept secret and he will be rewarded. "We will expel all the Qadianis from Qambar Ali," the pamphlet asserted.

AHMADIS BEHIND BARS

1

Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad, etc. were booked on May 26, 2020 with FIR Nr. 29/2020 at Police Station FIA Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 120-B, 109, 34 R/W, 2016-PECA-11. Pakistan's Cyber Crimes Department, Lahore that works under Federal Investigation Agency arrested Mr. Rohan Ahmad.

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

Syed Ali Abbas, Addl. Sessions Judge Lahore added the blasphemy clause PPC 295-C to the charge sheet on June 29, 2021. Thus, they are now exposed to penalty of death.

3

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

2

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 a 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. His trial goes on in the sessions court.

4

Malik Zaheer Ahmad was arrested on September 30, 2020 in a fabricated 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 Zaheer Ahmad was expected to be released from the Camp Jail, the Cyber Crime Wing Lahore team arrested him under FIR Nr. 88 as outlined in the above case, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11. He was not even formally nominated in the case.

As of Aug 31, 2022:

- 11 Ahmadis are behind bars solely on account of their faith.
- 13 Ahmadis arrested during the month with 5 still behind bars for sacrificing animals on Eid.
- A 65 year old Ahmadi lady and another Ahmadi were arrested under blasphemy clauses during February for allegedly tearing off an anti-Ahmadiyya poster. They both were released on bail. Their trial continues.
- A 20-year-old Ahmadi student is in jail under PPC 295-C (blasphemy clause).
- 2 Ahmadi prisoner died while in police custody (Feb. 2021 & Jan 2022.)

5

Mr. Zafar Ali and his father Mr. Arshad Pervaiz of Chak 84 Sarshamir, District Faisalabad were booked under PPC 298-C with FIR No. 845 at police station Thekri Wala, District Faisalabad on July 10, 2022 for sacrificing animals on Eid-ul-Adha. They are in District Jail Faisalabad.

6

Mr. Saeed Ahmad, Mr. Shakeel Ahmad, Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad, Mr. Imran Ahmad and Mr. Atif Ahmad of Chak 89 GB, Rattan District Faisalabad were booked under PPC 298-C with FIR No. 842 at police station Thekri Wala, District Faisalabad on July 10, 2022 for sacrificing animals on Eid-ul-Adha. The first-mentioned three Ahmadis were arrested and are in District Jail, Faisalabad.

RIGHT TO VOTE FOR AHMADIS IN PAKISTAN

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

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

BOTH CHOICES ARE INCONCEIVABLE TO AHMADI MUSLIMS

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

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

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

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

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

(Name & Signature of Voter)

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 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 Ahmadi Muslims

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

Persecution Facts

SINCE JANUARY 2021

- 5 Ahmadi have been murdered for faith, raising the total to 275 since the promulgation of Ordinance XX
- 17 murder attempts, 10 attacks during the current year.
- 2 Ahmadi Muslim prisoners died in custody, imprisoned for their faith.
- 19 Ahmadi Muslim mosques have been desecrated, 1 mosque sealed by the authorities.
- 235 Ahmadi Muslim graves desecrated, 173 of these were during 2022 and 53 during this month.
- 35 new cases have been registered against Ahmadi Muslims under the blasphemy laws & Anti-Ahmadi laws, 10 of these were registered last month.
- Sacred inscription from 19 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 Muslim 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. Ahmadi Muslim 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 Ahmadi Muslims 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.
- Ahmadi Muslim daily newspaper and periodicals for women, youth, children and elders were banned by a Punjab government notification.
- Authorities have prohibited sports events organised at a community level.

In Pakistan, Ahmadi Muslims are the only community who are:

Explicitly targeted by the constitutional and criminal laws

Denied voting rights for more than 35 years

Subjected to a publications ban on their entire religious texts



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