



BRIEFING UPDATE

PERSECUTION OF AHMADI MUSLIMS IN PAKISTAN

APRIL 2023

AHMADI MUSLIM LAWYER
ATTACKED & ARRESTED



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www.StopThePersecution.org



Headlines

AHMADI MUSLIM LAWYER ATTACKED

77-year-old Ahmadi Muslim lawyer Mr Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq was attacked by fellow lawyers and taken to the local police station where he was later arrested.

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INFORMATION

MOSQUE DESECRATED BY MOB

An Ahmadi Muslim mosque in Punjab had its niche and minarets destroyed as police watched on. Three Ahmadi Muslims had cases registered against them while the five of the arrested perpetrators were granted bail.

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INFORMATION

COLLEGE LIBRARIES PURGED

A circular was distributed requesting all colleges investigate their libraries for copies of the Holy Quran containing translations produced by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

SEE PAGE 5 FOR MORE
INFORMATION

AHMADI MUSLIM LAWYER ATTACKED AND ARRESTED

In Karachi City Court, on 27 April, 77-year-old Ahmadi Muslim lawyer Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq was attacked, alongside his assistant, by a group of other lawyers. The group proceeded to take Mr Tariq to the local police station where he was arrested under the anti-Ahmadi Muslim section 298-B of the Pakistan Penal Code.

The attackers argued that Syed Ali Ahmad Tariq's offence was that his name contained 'Syed', a standard prefix used by people descending from

the lineage of Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). However, the case is completely baseless as there is no law that forbids Ahmadi Muslims from using such Islamic names. Mr Tariq was arrested in November 2022 on the same grounds.

Mr Tariq is currently in prison.

MOB ATTACKS AHMADI MUSLIM MOSQUE

On 15 April, a violent mob of clerics began attacking an Ahmadi Muslim prayer centre in Samanabad, Lahore, with rods and made speeches on a loudspeaker outside condemning Ahmadi Muslims for preaching. The clerics demanded that the police register cases against some of the Ahmadi Muslims and, after two days, four Ahmadi Muslims were booked under section 298-C of the Pakistan

Penal Code for having an allegedly unregistered place of worship and illegally preaching Qadiyanat [derogatory term for Ahmadiyyat] hurting the sentiments of other Muslims. The four Ahmadi Muslims face three years imprisonment if found guilty of these baseless allegations.

GRAFFITI ON WALL OF AHMADI MUSLIM MOSQUE

In the early hours of 16 April, an Ahmadi Muslim mosque in Lahore was graffitied with derogatory language against Ahmadi Muslims inciting 'countless curses' upon them. The police were informed and had it painted over. This mosque was one of the two mosques where Ahmadi Muslims were massacred on 28 May, 2010, resulting in 86 deaths.



Graffiti painted on the wall of the mosque: 'Mirzais and Qadianis are infidels and apostates - countless curses be upon them'

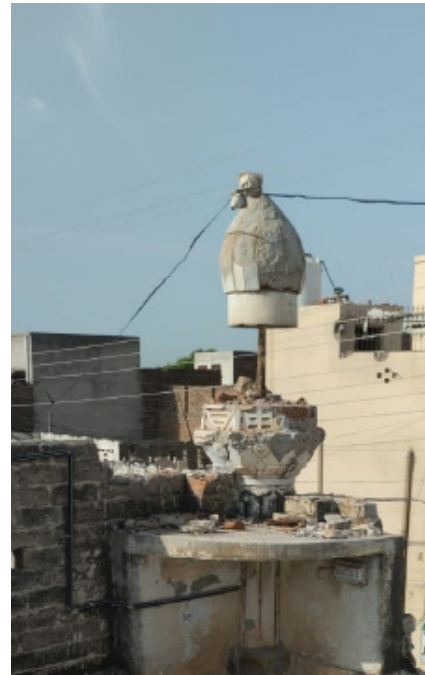
AHMADI MUSLIM MOSQUE DESECRATED IN POLICE PRESENCE

On 16 April, an application against the local Ahmadi Muslim mosque in Sargodha, Punjab, was filed at the police station. It was alleged that the complainant had overheard the Holy Quran being taught to children within the mosque when the constitution forbids them from doing so. It was further alleged that upon being asked to stop teaching by a security guard, the Ahmadi Muslim teacher threatened to kill the complainant.

Following the evening prayer of that day, a group gathered outside the mosque and demanded its minarets and niche be destroyed. Some attempted to scale the walls with ladders but were stopped by the police. At around 11 pm, some managed to gain access to the roof and demolished the minarets and niche as the police looked on.

On 17 April, three Ahmadi Muslims had a case registered against them on false accusations of criminal intimidation and threats. Following this

shocking attack, local Ahmadi Muslims filed an application against the attackers of which five were arrested but later released on bail.



Demolished minarets of mosque

AHMADI MUSLIM LAWYER ATTACKED WITH CLEAVER

In Lalian, Chiniot, an Ahmadi Muslim lawyer, Mr Amir Munir, was attacked by an extremist, Mr Zubair Anwar, with a cleaver. Mr Munir was in his chambers when the attack happened. He received

injuries to the head and was rushed to the hospital where he received treatment. The attacker was arrested.

DURING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2023

- Ahmadi Muslim brutally murdered on religious grounds.
- Ahmadi Muslim lawyer critically injured in a cleaver attack.
- Senior Ahmadi Muslim advocate beaten up and arrested under blasphemy clauses for having 'Syed' in his name.
- Senior Ahmadi Muslim leader arrested from the headquarters of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan.
- Ahmadi Muslim arrested for listening to the Holy Quran
- Eight Ahmadi Muslim mosques attacked; the minarets of another mosque concealed by a wall; another prayer centre besieged by a violent mob
- Burial of an Ahmadi Muslim woman denied in a common cemetery.
- Three graves damaged by opponents.
- Sacred inscriptions removed from three Ahmadi houses.
- Two Ahmadi students expelled from school.



CLERIC OPENLY CHALLENGES STATE DECISION

A cleric in Chaklala, Rawalpindi, openly challenged a decision by the Education Department to employ Ahmadi Muslim Mr Masood Bhatti as headmaster of a local government school there. The cleric, Mulla Qari Idrees, released a video where he appealed to officials to rescind the decision and threatened Mr Bhatti with violence if he even attempted to enter the school. He further laid the responsibility of any forthcoming bloodshed

or violence on the administration. Mulla Idrees finished by announcing the premises of the school would be patrolled from the following day to prevent Mr Bhatti from entering.

LIBRARIES PROBED FOR AHMADI MUSLIM TRANSLATIONS OF HOLY QURAN

On 5 April, a circular was issued by the Deputy Director of Colleges in Chiniot to investigate the libraries of all colleges to ensure there were no copies of the Holy Quran containing translations prepared by Ahmadi Muslims. Colleges were require to submit certificates that their libraries did not contain such copies.


**OFFICE OF THE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (COLLEGES), CHINIOT**
Email: deo.chiniot.hed@gmail.com
Phone No: 047-6336060 

To,
All the Principals (Male/Female),
Public and Private Colleges,
District Chiniot.

No: 254 /DDC (1) Dated: 05/4/2023

SUBJECT: COOPERATE WITH INSPECTION COMMITTEES OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES AND SUBMISSION OF CERTIFICATE

On behalf of the telephonic message of the High ups, different committees have been constituted to inspect thoroughly all the libraries in all Public and Private Colleges. The committees will inspect and make sure that no library possesses the new translation of Holy Quran (**PREPARED BY QADJANI/AHMADI COMMUNITY**). You are directed to fully cooperate with the committee constituted by the undersigned and submit certificates that your institution has not such translation/version.



Circular distributed by Deputy Director

AHMADI MUSLIMS 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.

The SC rejected their post-arrest bail application.

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. The ASJ acquitted Mr. Majeed of the blasphemy charge but declared him guilty of hurting religious feelings thereby, and awarded him five years imprisonment.

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 Salamat" and allegedly sharing Ahmadiyya content in it. He was arrested from Hafizabad on February 25, 2021. Subsequently the trial court added section 295-C of PPC to the said case.

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.

5

Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Sani was arrested on January 7, 2023 from his home in Rabwah. He was booked with FIR Nr. 661/22 under sections 295-B, 298-C and the Punjab Holy Quran (Printing and Recording) Act 2011. He was sent to Jhang Jail after judicial remand and later transferred to District Jail Faisalabad. His bail application is under trial in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Lalian, District Chiniot.

6

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

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

Alarming Facts SINCE JANUARY 2021

- 6 Ahmadis have been murdered for faith, raising the total to 276 since the promulgation of Ordinance XX
- 19 murder attempts, 10 attacks during 2022, 2 attacks in April 2023.
- Fabricated cases against 8 Ahmadis were registered during Nov 2022 and an FIR is registered against some members of Ahmadiyya leadership in Pakistan in December. Two new cases registered, one Ahmadi arrested in February 2023
- 2 Ahmadi prisoners died in custody, they were imprisoned for their faith.
- 28 Ahmadiyya mosques desecrated, 1 mosque sealed by the authorities. 8 attacked in during 2023
- 246 graves have been desecrated, 180 of these were during 2022. Burial of an Ahmadi lady denied and the graveyard sealed in November. Burial of another Ahmadi lady denied in January 2023.
- 47 new cases have been registered against Ahmadis under the blasphemy laws & Anti-Ahmadi laws, 10 of these were registered during August. A criminal case was registered against 16 Ahmadis during September and November 2022. Another case was registered against the top leadership of Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan in December 2022.
- Sacred inscription from 22 houses and shops have been removed

AHMADI MUSLIM 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.

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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