

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

Monthly Report
March 2021

HIGHLIGHTS – Religion Based Repression

- Kalima & Minarets of Ahmadiyya place of worship destroyed by the police
- Armed attack on Ahmadi homes in Peshawar & attempt to murder on another Ahmadi
- Gravestones of 16 Ahmadi destroyed
- Removal of sacred writings from Ahmadi houses/shops
- A report on threats received in March
- Ahmadis risk removal from jobs
- Details of Ahmadi prisoners



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Do you know?

- **274** Ahmadis have been murdered for their faith*
- **11** Ahmadis are behind bars as of March 31, 2021

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**

March 2021

**Since the promulgation of ordinance XX in 1984*

Contents

March 2021

1

Official support to religious extremists in the Punjab – Page 1

(Report on the removal of Kalima & Minarets by Police)

Wisdom of great judges – Page 3

Problems in the renovation of Ahmadiyya mosque – Page 3

2

Armed attack on Ahmadi homes in Peshawar, KPK – Page 4

Assault on an Ahmadi – Page 4

3

Gravestones of sixteen Ahmadis destroyed by the police – Page 5

Sacred inscriptions removed from an Ahmadi's business – Page 6

4

Re-arrested after the grant of bail – Page 7

Bail not granted – Page 7

Bail granted – by the Supreme Court – Page 7

Three years in prison – Page 7

5

Ahmadi student threatened with murder – Page 8

Threat letter to an Ahmadi – Page 8

Another Ahmadi harassed – Page 8

Severe harassment of Ahmadis – Page 9

6

Hatred and violence in District Mirpur Khas, Sindh – Page 9

7

Ahmadi fired from job due to his faith – Page 10

Ahmadi official's job at risk – Page 10

Ahmadis face false allegations and hostility at their jobs – Page 11

Also Include:

Update on Ahmadis behind bars – Page 12-13

Special Representative's worthy statement – Page 6

From the Media – Page 14-15

1 | Official support to religious extremists in the Punjab

Garmula Virkan, District Gujranwala; February — March 2021:

It was reported last month that one Sajjad Hussain had sent a letter to the Gujranwala Deputy Commissioner against the local Nasir Elementary School run by Ahmadis. On DC's instructions, a security officer visited the school for inquiry and saw for himself that Hussain's complaints were baseless and false.

Thereafter the same activist distributed an 8-page anti-Ahmadiyya pamphlet. Fearing a sectarian hype, an Ahmadi delegation met Mr. Sarfraz Falki, the CPO and conveyed him their apprehensions over the hate material and the extremists' drive against the Ahmadiyya tombstones. The CPO told them to put up their application; he would send the same to the Peace Committee, also he would send for both the parties, and then give his decision for implementation.

On CPO's instructions, Ahmadis met the SP concerning the hateful pamphlet and provided him with a copy. He, in turn told the SHO Garmula Virkan to look into the matter and told the delegation to meet the SHO the next day. The same night the security incharge telephoned that Ahmadi delegation to go and meet the CPO on March 2.

Accordingly, a 6-member Ahmadi delegation went to the CPO's office. There, the opponents, Tehsildar, Patwari, and another revenue official were present in addition to three members of the Peace Committee. *The Peace Committee members comprise a Sunni, an Ahle Hadith and a Shia — no Ahmadi.*

Ahmadis suggested to the police officials to meet them separately, which they declined but assured that Ahmadis would be given ample opportunity to say their bit.

Graveyard: The police first asked Sajjad Husain as to what was the problem. He said that the graveyard is of Muslims; Qadianis should have their own separate graveyard. Ahmadis stated that the village had three additional graveyards; in this graveyard Ahmadi dead were buried since long. Ahmadis also stated that the graveyard issue was being heard in a court on the plea of Mr. Hussain.

School: As for the school, Ahmadis stated that the school was constructed by their community, and its registration has been officially applied for. At this, opponents suggested that other children should be discharged immediately. Ahmadis replied that this would cause the loss of one academic year of the children, also the parents of these students would hold this against Ahmadiyya management of the school; however if the students leave the school on their own, the management would not object. *At this, the DSP remarked that the management should not have admitted the Muslim children in the first place. Amazing!*

Ahmadi delegation told the police officials that the CPO had told Ahmadis to attend the meeting regarding the hateful pamphlet and not regarding the school and the graveyard. Mr. Hussain, by distributing the pamphlet had put Ahmadi lives at risk; he

has thus violated the law as well. At this Sajjad was admonished over the distribution of the pamphlet.

Near the end of the meeting, a member of the Peace Committee proposed that the school should be sealed and the Committee was prepared to say so in writing. Ahmadis replied that they were not willing to accept that. *At this, the DSP got angry and said, "Who are you to not accept that. The school shall be sealed and if you do not co-operate, a parcha (criminal case) will be registered (against you)." Finally, it was put down in writing that till Qadianis are allocated a separate graveyard they would continue their burials in this graveyard; also the Muslim children will continue with their classes till the end of the academic year.*

Ahmadiyya Mosque: Thereafter, the same Sajjad Husain wrote to the DSP Noshehrah Virkan that Ahmadiyya worship place in Garmula Virkan has minarets and the *Kalima* is also written there. The DSP then sent for the two parties to come over on March 8. *When the Ahmadi delegation arrived they found approximately 40 mullas assembled there.*

1 Official support to religious extremists in the Punjab

Concerning the graveyard, the Ahmadi delegation conveyed that as the issue was sub judice, one ought to wait for a court decision. As for the school, Ahmadis will not object to parents withdrawing their children on their own. *As for the removal of the Kalima and the minarets, Ahmadis will not undertake that and shall not allow a private party to do that. If the police do that in uniform, Ahmadis will not confront.*

The next day, on demand of the DSP, Ahmadis went there to deposit the documents concerning the graveyard, the school registration and a statement on oath. The DSP summed up the situation that the issue of the graveyard is active no more, the school registration is not there except the application and challan, (He was told that the official procedure takes time).

Police action on Ahmadiyya Place of worship



Images before and after the incident

As for the Kalima, the DSP insisted that Ahmadis remove it themselves. He was told that Ahmadis will not do that, but will not resist the police.

At this, the DSP directed the local police and Ahmadis to report to him on March 11.

Then on March 17, in an operation, the police destroyed the elegant minarets and undertook the enormity of effacing the Kalima on the mosque's front. The SHO stated that this was undertaken on orders of RPO (Regional Police Officer) after his meeting with mullas. The sacrilege was undertaken by a team of seven policemen and two municipal workers under the supervision of the SHO. Then came an official of the anti-terrorism department and took photographs (of the terror inflicted on Ahmadis by the state).

This reminded one of the observations of the renowned judges who produced the widely acclaimed Report on Punjab Disturbances of 1953: *The Ahrar (anti-Ahmadi agitators) were treated (by the authorities) as members of the family and the Ahmadis as strangers.* (see page 3)

1 Place of worship

Problems in renovation of Ahmadiyya mosque

Charnari, Tatta Pani, Azad Kashmir; March 6, 2021:

Construction of washrooms etc. was undertaken in the Ahmadiyya mosque here. Muhammad Asif of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Ya Rasool Allah filed a petition in the police station against Kalima (Islamic creed) and the niche of the Ahmadiyya mosque here. On his complaint, the police sent for the parties on March 6, 2021. *After hearing both sides the police imposed the following agreement:*

1. Muhammad Hanif and others have written the Kalima on their place

of worship. A niche like that of a mosque is built there. The TLP may approach a pertinent forum like a court.

2. Muhammad Hanif and others can build washrooms etc. After the construction they will build a safety wall on the fountain side, up to four feet; they will install the gate after building a safety wall up to seven feet on the front road.
3. After the completion of this construction, Muhammad Hanif and others will not undertake any further extension. If they need it, they may do so only with court permission.
4. If anyone violates this pact, legal action will be taken against him.

Both parties signed the pact.

Wisdom of great judges

Given numerous incidents like the one in Garmula Virkan (p.1) one is reminded of observations made by the two great judges who compiled the renowned Report of the Court of Inquiry. . . Punjab Disturbances of 1953 (extract):

It was this fear of becoming unpopular if anything bold or courageous was done that was mainly responsible for a complete absence of the ideology that was necessary to resist or prevent the movement which by its apparently religious appeal so rapidly permeated the masses. We are, therefore, of the opinion that our leaders failed in their duty and that they found themselves completely unable to rise to the occasion which demanded foresight, wisdom and all the qualities of the statesmanship. Throughout the period not one popular leader dared appeal to the common sense of the citizen. Even when the conflagration was in its fury, not one of them condescended to talk to the people and to explain to them that they were being misled to a course, the only immediate result of which could be the shattering of the country to pieces.” (p.276)

The 1953 conflagration ended up in the imposition of martial law in Lahore. We earnestly hope that history does not repeat itself.

2 Assaults

Armed attack on Ahmadi homes in KPK

Peshawar; March 12, 2021:

Unidentified men fired at Ahmadis' homes in Bazid Khel at about 1 a.m. night on March 12. Families of Messers Arshad Iqbal, Ruhul Amin and Sahibzada Muhammad Rafiq reside there. *Nine shots were aimed at Mr. Arshad's home while the other two were shot 4/5 times.*

Last month Homeopath Abdul Qadir was shot dead in his clinic in the same village. *The opponents took out an anti-Ahmadiyya procession there on February 25 and demanded the closure of the clinic. Anti-Ahmadi sermons are delivered in mosques routinely.*

It seems the miscreants aim is to drive Ahmadis out of the village; they have lived there for long.

The authorities apparently have failed to take effective measures against the extremists and sectarian elements.

The KPK is being ruled by Mr. Mahmood Khan, the chief minister of PTI.

Afghanistan



Punjab



Images of gunshots

Assault on Ahmadi

Khushab; March 8, 2021:

Mr. Nusrat Elahi Majoka is a practicing Ahmadi. On March 8, he was on his way to his sister's house when he was stopped on the way. Two young men on a motorbike said to him, "How are you? We have to talk to you. Let's be on one side." "I do not know you; who are you?" asked Mr. Majoka. When they all stopped on the roadside, there were already some youths present in the adjacent park.

When Mr. Majoka asked them to introduce themselves, they said, *"Wait, O Mirzai, we introduce to you";* and then started beating him. Meanwhile, a passerby asked them why they were beating him. They cursed Mr. Majoka and said that he was a Mirzai. The passerby observed, "What if he is a Mirzai? He did not harm you." He called for more people to help him. At that, the attackers left Mr. Majoka and fled away. *They left Mr. Majoka injured badly.*

3 | Desecration by the Police

Gravestones of 16 Ahmadis



Sixteen Ahmadis' gravestones destroyed by the police in Kot DiyalDas, District Nankana

Kot DiyalDas, District Nankana; March 2021:

For some time now, opponents of Ahmadis are engaged in extensive anti-Ahmadi activities here. **On January 15, the police, acting on the call of the opposition, destroyed the niche of the Ahmadiyya place of worship and built a wall around its minarets.**

In February, an Ahmadi Mr. Akhlaq Ahmad received a call from Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Teli who demanded a portion of land which Mr. Ahmad owns and uses for his cattle. Teli threatened Ahmad with land grabbing otherwise.

On February 21, an Ahmadi lad, Mahmood Ahmad, passed by the house of Teli and was assaulted by the youth of his family. When home, he told his family about this. Some Ahmadis went over to Teli's house where he opened fire on them from his rooftop. Meanwhile, someone called the police. The police sent for both parties to the police station the next day and arranged a settlement. The police took an affidavit from Ahmadis against any repetition and sent the parties back.

On February 24, one Asghar Ali, from a nearby village, wrote a complaint to the police station alleging that Ahmadis had called themselves 'Muslim' in the affidavit submitted by them to the police. *In fact, the SHO police himself had written the full statement of the affidavit and used the word 'Ahmadi Muslim' in it.* Therefore, the police took no action on Ali's complaint.

On the night of **February 27**, some unknown persons fired shots at the house of an Ahmadi Mr. Ejaz Ahmad, a cop. He called the police. The police arrived, inspected the scene, and remained there throughout the night. The next day, a complaint was filed in the police station.

On February 28, Naseer Ahmad, an Ahmadi school teacher, was on his way to his farm when some non-Ahmadis stopped him and badmouthed him. Mr. Ahmad reported the incident to the police.

On March 1, the police sent for both parties in connection with the incidents that occurred on February 27 and 28. All the incidents were discussed in this meeting. Opponents expressed ignorance about the firing incident at Mr. Ahmad's house. The police decided to investigate the incident further and directed the parties to live in peace. On his return, an opponent tried to

stop Mr. Naseer Ahmad and punched him. At this, Mr. Ahmad went back to the police station and reported it. *At that, the police kept him in the police station for three hours to avoid any mishap. Later Mr. Ahmad was allowed to leave; he changed his route and returned home.*

On March 2, the police visited the village for investigation of the firing incident at Mr. Ahmad's house.

The opponents thereafter changed their plan and used religion as a weapon. *They filed a complaint with the police against Ahmadiyya cemetery alleging that Islamic inscriptions were written on Ahmadis' tombstones; these should be removed.*

On March 11, 2021, at about 9 p.m., the police took action on their complaint, without even contacting and consulting Ahmadis, and tore down 16 gravestones and took away the debris with them.

Ahmadis are treated as step-children of the Pakistani state — a violation of the Constitution by the State.

3 Desecration by mulla

Sacred inscriptions removed from an Ahmadi's business

Sanghar; March 2021:

Mr. Zafar Ahmad, a resident of Belgium, owns a weigh-station at the grain market in Sanghar. Mr. Ahmad's two non-Ahmadi brothers operate it.

It had Arabic words, 'Allah', 'Muhammad', 'Mashallah', and 'Wallahu Khair ur Raziqeen' written on it.

On February 13, a mulla Saad of the local mosque said that *since the business belonged to an Ahmadi, the writings on it were not acceptable; these should be removed.*

To do that the mulla took a Hindu there to erase these words. The Hindu however refused to erase God's name.

The mulla said that he would himself be accountable to God for this, and proceeded to efface the writings.



Special Representative's worthy statement

Ahmadis hold in great regards the above statement of the Special Representative, concerning minorities. They are mindful that the Constitutional Amendment Nr. II classified them a Non-Muslim minority for the purposes of Constitution and Law. They shall keenly observe the implementation factor in the assurance given by Honorable Hafiz Ashrafi, as according to the op-ed in the daily Dawn of October 8, 2020: *"Traditionally, such Fatwas and declarations (as the 20 points of Code of Conduct by CII, and Paigham Pakistan of 2018) have wielded little to no influence on most radical elements and extremist groups in Pakistan. Even in the presence of such drafts and decrees, extremist elements and groups would continue to spread hatred as per their convictions or other internal and external compulsions."*

Pakistan did well indeed to move the resolution on Islamophobia, however, it should watch out against elements that practice Ahmadiphobia and bring a bad name to the country.

Multan; March 9, 2021: The following was reported online by [breccorder.com.news/40071851](https://breccorder.com/news/40071851) as *Pakistan, APP on 09 Mar 2021* (extracts):

MULTAN; Special Representative to Prime Minister on Religious Harmony, Maulana Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi said on Tuesday that minorities should not undergo any sort of fear as they were safe and secure and similarly, the country's constitution was guardian of the minorities rights.

Maulana Tahir Ashrafi stated: "No one can deprive minorities from their rights."

The Special representative to PM remarked that incumbent government was guardian of Masjid, Madrassah and belief of Khatm-e-Nabuwwat. Prime Minister Imran Khan pleaded case of Islam in United Nations effectively. Similarly a resolution on Islamophobia was also presented in Organization of Islamic Countries.

4 | Imprisonments

Re-arrested after grant of bail

Lahore; February 27, 2021: Malik Zahir Ahmad, Ahmadi of Lahore had been wrongfully booked and arrested on September 30, 2021 by Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 109 and PECA 11.

Lahore High Court accepted his application for bail on February 23, 2021 and he was released on February 27.

Soon thereafter, the Cyber Crimes Wing Lahore re-arrested him in another case, FIR 88 of June 20, 2020 and sent him to prison. *It is highly relevant to mention that Mr. Ahmad was neither named in this FIR, nor was he told to present himself.* His re-arrest is obviously *malafide* and baseless.

Bail not granted

Lahore; Mr. Rohan Ahmad and others were booked by Cyber Crimes Wing, Lahore in FIR Nr. 29 on May 26, 2020, under PPCs 295-B, 298-C, 120-B, 109, 34 and PECA-11; he was arrested. The temporary bails of two other accused, **Mr. Hafiz Tariq and Malik Usman Ahmad** were not confirmed so they were also arrested on July 16, 2020.

They remain incarcerated for allegedly sharing Quranic and religious knowledge on social media.

Bail granted – by the Supreme Court

Islamabad, March 15, 2021: Mr. Waqar Ahmad a student of Jamia Ahmadiyya, Rabwah and three Ahmadi elders were booked under the blasphemy law 295-B, anti-Ahmadi law 298-C and other laws on November 12, 2019 at P.S. FIA Lahore, on the complaint of mulla Hassan Muawiyah on November 12, 2019 for *allegedly sharing Quranic material*. Mr. Waqar Ahmad was arrested.

- Magistrate Zulfiqar Bari rejected his plea for bail on April 8, 2020.
- Ms. Misbah ASJ Lahore rejected Mr. Ahmad's appeal against the decision of the magistrate, on September 1, 2020.
- An appeal was heard by Justice Sadaqat Ali Khan of Lahore High Court who rejected it on January 21, 2021.

Appeal against the LHC decision was made to the Supreme Court. The SC bench comprising Justices Omar Ata Bandial, Qazi M Amin Ahmad and Syed Mazahar AA Naqvi heard the appeal and granted the bail on March 15, 2021.

God bless the worthy SC judges.

Ahmadis who allegedly share scriptural material on social media get arrested, and for their bails they have to go up to a Supreme Court bench. Whither religious freedom for Ahmadis!

Three years in prison

Tandlianwala, District Faisalabad; March 17, 2021: Mr. Saeed A Warraich of the village was arrested in January 2018 on a charge of committing blasphemy. *He had, of course, committed no blasphemy whatsoever; but did have a squabble with another shopkeeper, who then fabricated a blasphemy story and the police compliantly pushed the deadly clause PPC 295-C.*

The trial was held in Faisalabad. The good judge ASJ Shazia Cheema acquitted Mr. Warraich, on March 17, 2021.

Mr. Saeed A Warraich spent three years and two months for an offence he did not commit. **Three years is a long time.**

5 Threats & Harassments

Ahmadi student threatened with murder and harassed by teacher and class fellows

Chawinda, District Sialkot; March 2021:

Mr. Masroor Ahmad, an Ahmadi student, faced opposition for being an Ahmadi, in Government College Chawinda District Sialkot. Explaining the rights of non-Muslims, the Islamic Studies' teacher said, *"All non-Muslims should be given their rights, but Qadianis are apostates, infidels; don't be sympathetic to them. Kill them, wherever you find them."*

After the lecture, students became hostile and started badmouthing the Jamaat. Most students did not know that Mr. Ahmad was an Ahmadi, except a few. *After this lecture, his class fellows abused him and uttered threats.*

Threat letter to an Ahmadi

Township, Lahore; March 25, 2021:

Malik Mahmood Ahmad lives in Township, Lahore. On March 25, an unknown person threw in a slip of paper at his house, it read,

"Go away within a week. If you don't, we will attack you."

Mr. Ahmad is perturbed.

Sacred inscriptions removed from an Ahmadi's business; another Ahmadi harassed

Sanghar; March 2021: Mr. Zafar

Ahmad, a resident of Belgium, owns a weigh-station at a grain market in Sanghar. Mr. Ahmad's two non-Ahmadi brothers operate it. It had Arabic words, 'Allah', 'Muhammad', 'Mashallah', and 'Wallahu Khair ur Raziqeen' written on it.

On February 13, a mulla Saad of the local mosque said that *since the business belonged to an Ahmadi, the writings on it were not acceptable; these should be removed.* To do that the mulla took a Hindu there to erase these words. The Hindu however refused to erase God's name. The mulla said that he would himself be accountable to God for this, and proceeded to efface the writings.

Another incident:

Mr. Saeed Ahmad went to the main bazaar for shopping, *where the shopkeeper refused to sell him grocery because of his faith. Mr. Ahmad then drove his motorbike to the next shop when a motorcyclist approached him from behind and started abusing the Ahmadiyya Jamaat.* Thereafter Mr. Ahmad went to a Hindu's shop; the same man followed him there and started shouting against the Jamaat. He also tried to hit Mr. Ahmad's bike; luckily, the target survived the hit.

5 Threats & Harassments

Severe harassment of Ahmadis through false accusation

Karachi / Abbottabad; March 2021: Mr. Faizan, a worker in Sher Shah Paracha Factory, was rescued by the police when a charged mob attacked the factory accusing him of defiling the Holy Quran. When the mob attacked the factory, Faizan had to lock himself inside a room. The issue was raised on social media calling him Ahmadi.

After the attack, the victim reportedly narrated the entire incident in a video and denied disrespecting the Holy Quran. He said that he was going through some family problems, and had approached maulvis to solve it. They took money from him but did not do anything to solve his problem. He denied making derogatory comments on or handling the Quran.

An inquiry confirmed that he is not

at all an Ahmadi but a Sunni, and he being an Ahmadi is fabrication.

In another incident of the same type, on March 12, a rally was held in Abbottabad against a prisoner who allegedly desecrated a copy of the Holy Quran in jail. The participants demanded action against him. *A few people on social media spread the news that the accused is a Qadiani.* In fact, there is no Ahmadi prisoner in the said jail. The accused is mentally unstable and was being held on the same charge.

It is frequent on social media these days, that when such an incident happens anywhere, some people falsely call the accused Ahmadi. Tahrik Labbaik (TLP) is often the promoter of this enormity. Similar incidents recurred in Jhakkar Imam Shah, Dera Ghazi Khan, Green Town Lahore and Rawalpindi.

6 Incitement to Hatred

Hatred and violence in District Mirpur Khas, Sindh

Jhudo & Naukot, District Mirpur Khas; March 2021:

For some time now, opponents of Ahmadis are engaged in extensive anti-Ahmadi activities in these towns of District Mirpur Khas. **Earlier, an Ahmadi was arrested by the police for removing an anti-Ahmadi poster in Jhudo but was released later.**

On March 9, opponents took out a rally in Jhudo, in which *mullas harangued the crowd against the Jamaat Ahmadiyya and called for the killing of Ahmadis, burning of*

Ahmadis' houses, stopping doing businesses with and social boycott of Ahmadis.

On March 11, some Ahmadi children of Naukot were on their way home after cleaning their place of worship when *stones were thrown at them from behind, causing injuries to two. The next day, someone threw stones and bricks at the house of the local Ahmadi missionary.* Luckily no damage was done — it however disturbed the peace of the local Ahmadis greatly.

7 Problems faced at place of work

Ahmadi fired from job due to his faith

Gulshanabad District Dera Ghazi Khan; March 2021:

Mr. Rizwan Ahmad has done M.Sc. Entomology from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and has been working as Territory Manager in pesticide industry for the last four years. Some of his colleagues knew that he was Ahmadi but the management did not know.

When the management came to know that Mr. Ahmad was an Ahmadi, they called him, told him to change his belief or else quit his job, and urged him to make a quick decision. The management often sent for Mr. Ahmad and asked him to renounce Ahmadiyyat.

Opposition to Ahmadiyyat has been growing in Rajanpur and Dera Ghazi Khan for some time now, so *Mr. Ahmad*

faced the situation with patience and refrained from responding to provocation.

Two months later, the management noticed that he was not talking about the issue at all, nor did he change his beliefs, so they fired him and spread the word about him in the industry.

Mr. Ahmad had more job offers in the industry, but after the news of his dismissal spread, everyone refused to hire him. Dealers boycotted him. The car given to him by the company, which was to be permanently given to him after six months according to the company rules, had also to be returned to the company. He was to receive more than a million rupees incentive at market clearance, which has become difficult to obtain after the incident.

Mr. Ahmad is currently looking for a job and is struggling with the difficult situation.

Ahmadi official's job at risk

Pachnand, District Chakwal; March 2021:

Mr. Muhammad Iqbal, an Ahmadi, has long been *Numbardar* (village chief) in his village. Haji Mumtaz Ali Khan along with 23 people of the village has requested the Assistant Commissioner /District Collector against *Mr. Iqbal* that *Pachnand's Numbardar* is a Qadiani while only twenty to twenty-five Qadianis reside here and all others are Muslim. Muslims are restless and suffer from a sense of inferiority, therefore, the *Qadiani Numbardar Muhammad Iqbal* should be removed from this post, and a competent and suitable person from the Muslim population should

be appointed, they wrote.

The Assistant Commissioner sent the petition to the Collector with a note that residents accuse the *Qadiani Numbardar* of involvement in anti-Islamic activities and propagation of the Qadiani religion. *A case was registered against him on October 10, 2004, under sections 302, 148 and 109, which ended in a mutual truce.* According to the rules, if Muhammad Iqbal is not qualified for the post of *Numbardar*, he should be removed from the post and a suitable person be appointed as *Pachnand's Numbardar*.

Mr. Iqbal has been summoned two or three times in this regard. *The opponents presented some supporting court verdicts in this regard in which Ahmadis were removed from their posts for their faith. Mr. Iqbal is waiting for their seniors' verdict.*

The law does not specify at all that such posts are based on religion.

4 Problems faced at place of work

Ahmadis face false allegations and hostility at their jobs

Dera Ghazi Khan; March 2021:

Mr. Mubashir Ahmad is the headmaster of the Slow Learners Special Education Complex, Dera Ghazi Khan. His brother Mr. Zafar Ahmad is a clerk in the same school. Mr. Mubashir Ahmad's wife Rashida Tayyaba is Headmistress Government Special Education Center, Dera Ghazi Khan. A sister of Mr. Mubashir Ahmad Ms. Zarghona Bashir is a senior teacher at Special Education Government School for Deaf, Muzaffargarh. Another sister of Mr. Mubashir, Ms. Tehmina is a teacher at Special Education Shadab School Dera Ghazi Khan. Similarly, another Ahmadi Mr. Shafiqur Rehman is a teacher at Special Education School, Rajanpur.

All these Ahmadis belong to one family. They have been serving in the education department for a long time.

They are facing opposition and harassment for their faith.

In Special Education, the Shahid Nawaz group is active against Ahmadis and filing petitions against them with the officers of the department. During a ceremony at the Arts Council in 2016, a mulla Rahmatullah told *Mr. Zafar Ahmad* that he was not a Muslim. This caused a bit of commotion.

The former DEO Special Education Mr. Rafiullah went to a departmental meeting there the Education Secretary asked him about the problem with Ahmadis.

The DEO replied that these people are working hard in Special Education and that is why the department is doing well. These people are good and sincere workers, he said.

Mr. Mubashir Ahmad: Then the opponents filed a petition against Mr. Mubashir Ahmad and others through a sweeper of Special Education in which *he accused them of making him work at their private institution and were pressurizing him to accept Ahmadiyyat or face dismissal. It was, of course, fabrication.*

Similarly, those who support Mr. Ahmad etc. in the department are also harassed. In the above-mentioned petition, the sweeper also accused a non-Ahmadi and Ms. Rabia Nazar, both friends of the Ahmadi family.

In 2017, anti-Ahmadi Shahid Nawaz, the headmaster, harassed *Mr. Shafiqur Rehman* and told him that he would get him fired from the job. However, the DEO Special Education intervened and resolved the issue. *A few months ago, antagonists of the Ahmadi family Mr. Shahid Nawaz was removed from the post of principal, which angered him and his family.*

Mr. Mubashir Ahmad runs a private institution in Dera Ghazi Khan called Ghazi College of Social Sciences. The institute offers M.A. Special Education, M.A. Urdu, B.Ed. and Diploma in Speech and Language etc. This institution is registered with the University of Education Lahore. The principal of this institution is a

non-Ahmadi. Opponents are opposing this institution. False anonymous petitions were filed against this institution including the allegation of preaching Ahmadiyyat in it. Tahrik Khatme Nabuwwat is active in this matter.

In November 2020, a report was submitted by the Special Branch to their seniors on an anonymous complaint made against Mr. Mubashir Ahmad. *The report contains, "Grouping is going on in the Special Education Complex. Shahid Nawaz Group continues to oppose the Mubashir Ahmad Group because of its Qadiani religion. Even before that, anonymous applications were made in 2014. In this petition, allegations have been made based on Qadiani religion, these have not been confirmed, and the anonymous petitioner has not been identified."*

Opponents have repeatedly plotted to fabricate police cases against these Ahmadis. *In these circumstances, Mr. Mubashir Ahmad has asked for two-months leave to avoid the conflict. Mr. Shafiqur Rehman has been transferred.*

Ahmadis prefer peace at jobs; they feel stressed under the circumstances.

Ahmadi accused behind bars

A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis,

1 Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad

of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhupura 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 hear them for three years.

These three Ahmadis are in prison for six and half years.

As for the murderer of Mr. Khalil Ahmad, he has not been sentenced yet.

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 that works under Federal Investigation Agency conducted a raid on the house of *Mr. Rohan Ahmad of Wapda Town, Lahore, arrested and tortured him.*

Mr. Rohan Ahmad, Malik Usman Ahmad and Hafiz Tariq Shehzad are currently imprisoned at Camp Jail, Lahore.

3 Mr. Abdul Majeed S/o Mr. Abdul Waheed

A 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 at Peshawar Jail.*

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.*

Ahmadi accused behind bars

5 Mr. Shiraz Ahmad

Four Ahmadis 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 was arrested from Hafizabad on February 25, 2021.*

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 March 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, under PPCs 295-A, 298-C, PECA-11.

He was not even formally nominated in the case.

Only For Their Faith

This is alarming that as of March 31, 2021

- *11 Ahmadis are behind bars*
- *One prisoner is of 20 years of age*
- *3 Ahmadis have been on death row since 2017*
- *These 3 Ahmadis are in prison for the last six and a half years.*

Do you know?

- The entire population of Rabwah i.e. Ahmadiyya headquarters in Pakistan was charged under section PPC 298-C on 15-12-1989, and again on June 8, 2008. (Population of Rabwah is approximately sixty thousand.)
- All outdoor rallies & conferences of Ahmadis in Rabwah have been banned by the government
- 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 and monthlies for women, youth, children and elders were banned by a Punjab government notification.
- Sports events organized at a community level have been prohibited by the authorities

From the Media

Minarets of the Ahmadiyya worship place destroyed in Police presence near Gujranwala

bbc.com/urdu/Pakistan-56457981 on March 19, 2021

The plight of Ahmadi Community: Story of Ahmadi young man facing discrimination, prosecution and death. *BBC News URDU March 24, 2021*

Pasroor: 19 of Qadiani family became Muslim *The daily Jang; Lahore, March 21, 2021*

US, Israel, UK and India are helping Qadianis to put an end to Islam: Ejaz ul Haq (son of Gen. Zia) *The daily Khabrain; Lahore, March 1, 2021*

US, India and Israel are using Qadianis as pawns. Khatam-un-Nabiiyyeen Conference (at Chenab Nagar) *The daily Ausaf; Lahore, March 13, 2021*

Attacker who made assassination attempt on life of Engr. Ali (a religious scholar too) has been caught and handed over to police. He claimed his reason for attack was that he believes Engr. Ali is an Ahmadi. He is not, but this shows the constant fear Ahmadis live under ... *Twitter.com/MJibranNasir/status/1371180002126012420*

Two Afghan terrorists arrested at Bus Station (Lahore); they planned to kill religious scholar and religious minority leaders. *The daily Khabrain; Lahore, March 18, 2021*

We'll protect minorities' right: (Ashrafi) *The daily Mashriq; Lahore, March 22, 2021*

Country turned into welfare state: PM *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 23, 2021*

Catholic Church abused 10,000 children in France *The daily The News; Lahore, March 3, 2021*

Saudi prince calls Imran, invites him to Riyadh. PM lauds kingdoms green initiative. *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 30, 2021*

Pakistan to back S Lanka against UNHRC resolution *The daily The News; Lahore, March 22, 2021*

Five (Islamists) shot dead in new deadly clashes in Bangladesh *The daily The Nation; Lahore, March 28, 2021*

Charlie Hebdo office attacker radicalized by videos of preachers' speeches: Report *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 25, 2021*

Islamic party becomes surprise king maker after Israeli elections *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 25, 2021*

Islamophobia is a source of troubles for Muslim minorities: Pakistan (in OIC) *The Jehan Pakistan; Lahore, March 16, 2021*

NA Standing Committee directs registration of blasphemy case in Aurat March *The daily Insaaf; Lahore, March 18, 2021*

Indians protest against call for Muslim prayers *The Jehan Pakistan; Lahore, March 19, 2021*

New Zealand has duty to support Muslim Community: Arden (PM) *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 14, 2021*

Pakistan's basic issue is moral (decline), He said. *The daily Jang; Lahore, March 9, 2021*

Western states sanction China for Uighur 'abuses'

Huge fire sweeps through a Rohingya camp in Bangladesh

Saudi oil giant sees profits fall nearly 45% *BBC Top Stories; March 23, 2021*

Sweden attacker identified as 22-year-old Afghan: media *The daily The Nation; Lahore, March 5, 2021*

UN rights office laments Swiss ban on Muslim face-coverings *The daily The News; Lahore, March 10, 2021*

Malaysian (high) court allows non-Muslims to use word 'Allah' *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 12, 2021*

Ban declared on Burqua (face-covering of Muslim women) and thousands of madrassahs in Sri Lanka *The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 14, 2021*

India is now only 'partly free' under Modi, says report *bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56249596*

Chief Minister Punjab visits Chiniot *The daily Jang; Lahore, March 31, 2021*

No concept of religious minorities in democratic dispensation: Workshop on interfaith harmony, in Hyderabad *The daily The News; Lahore, March 20, 2021*

Fazlur Rahman, now Sirajul Haq; Bilawal switches over to new Imam: Fawad Chaudhry (PTI) *The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 25, 2021*

PM accuses Nawaz, Zardari of looting country for 30 years *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 20, 2021*

No compromise on finality of Prophethood (PBUH): Tahir Ashrafi *The daily Nation; Lahore, March 15, 2021*

LHC: Orders to not arrest Capt. (R) Safdar till March 29 (He is facing NAB charges for assets beyond declared

in case) *The daily Jang; Lahore, March 9, 2021*

Imran has little understanding of Riasat Madina: Hasan Nisar N-League (leaders) are obstinate and shameless: Talk in Geo program 'Meray Mutabaq'

Senate became a fish market (*Bakra Mandi*); leader were bought and sold: Imran Khan (PM) *The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 13, 2021*

Five 'militants' killed in Mastung operation *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 9, 2021*

374 phony religious leaders listed in the Fourth Schedule *The Jehan Pakistan; Lahore, March 4, 2021*

Accused of Kark temple vandalism pardoned (in Jirga) *The daily Express Tribune; Lahore, March 14, 2021*

Court (LHC's CJ M. Qasim Khan) summons FIA (DG), PTA (D) in blasphemous content case (on Face Book) *The daily Express Tribune; Lahore, March 18, 2021*

This government is pushing the country to gutter: Justice Faiz *The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, March 18, 2021*

Two men caught abusing minor in mosque *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 25, 2021*

'Juvenile' convict acquitted after 28 years in jail *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 30, 2021*

Finland happiest country in the world: Afghanistan the most unhappy *BBC Top Stories; March 20, at 16:30*

Pakistan PM Imran Khan tests positive for Covid *BBC Top Stories; March 20, 2021, at 16:30*

Motorway rape convicts (two) sentenced to death *The daily Dawn; Lahore, March 21, 2021*

From the Media

Twitter: @Kashif MD



Kashif N Chaudhry
@KashifMD

...

Hey @ImranKhanPTI, what is more Islamophobic than criminalizing the proclamation of Tauheed & attesting to the truth of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) the Khataman Nabiyeen? Or attacking Mosques & arresting citizens for reading the Quran?

When will this Islamophobia end?

Kashif N Chaudhry Tweet on Mar 17, 2021

Op-ed: Resolving March 23, for 2021

...At least point of the story is the tragic compulsion we have developed for ignoring facts. The Lahore Resolution was authored by Sir Zafrullah Khan, an Ahmadi. It was presented by a founding father of Pakistan, staunch Muslim League activist and champion of the Bengali language, Shere Bengal, AK Fazlul Haq.

Musharraf Zaidi in The News of March 23, 2021

Corrigendum

In Persecution report for February 2021:

On cover page, right column, line 4, for '7' read '5'.

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 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 a year later, in 1974, Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, then the 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 own profession, Ahmadis were forcibly declared a non-Muslim minority through legislation.

Ordinance XX

Following Bhutto's lead, General Ziaul Haq, the military dictator of Pakistan from 1977 to 1988, went many steps further when to gain the support of extremists he promulgated the notorious anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX in 1984 which 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. In addition to prohibiting them from proselytizing, it expressly forbade them certain religious practices and 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 a *carte blanche* to terrorize Ahmadis with the backing of the state.



Human Rights Section

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