



# AHMADIYYA MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE

Tabshir Office: Osman Chou Block, Islamabad, 02 Sheephatch Lane, Tilford, Surrey GU10 2AQ, UK

SPECIAL REPORT – HUMAN RIGHTS

February 4, 2023

- ASSAILANTS OPEN FIRE AT AHMADIYYA PRAYER CENTER IN MIRPURKHAS
- AHMADIYYA MOSQUE NOOR NAGAR, UMARKOT, SINDH WAS SET ABLAZE
- MINARETS OF THE AHMADIYYA MOSQUE IN SINDH WERE DESTROYED
- MINARETS OF ANOTHER AHMADIYYA MOSQUE DESTROYED IN PUNJAB
- SIX ATTACKS ON AHMADIYYA MOSQUES IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS

It is deeply concerning to report six incidents of desecration and attack on the Ahmadiyya mosques since the start of 2023. In addition to a firing incident, four identical attacks have occurred in the province of Sindh, with two of them happening in broad daylight in the provincial capital Karachi. The government has a responsibility to ensure the safety of places of worship for all religious beliefs and faiths. These attempts have demonstrated the government's inability to offer protection and have disregarded the Supreme Court of Pakistan's 2014 orders regarding the safeguarding worship places. We briefly mention some details below.

**February 04, 2023:** Unknown attackers fired shots at the Ahmadiyya Prayer Center Satellite Town, Mirpurkhas City, around 8:30 PM. At the time, the local president and other members of the Ahmadi community were inside. Fortunately, no one was harmed. After the incident, a police constable was stationed on duty, while two constables were present during the day. An application has been submitted to the Police to register a FIR.



**February 03, 2023, Noor Nagar, District Umarkot, Sindh:** A group of unidentified culprits breached the wall of the Ahmadiyya mosque at night, and poured the mosque with gasoline, setting it ablaze. The fire ravaged the hall of Ahmadiyya mosque, destroying the chairs and prayer mats within. The incident was discovered by members who had come for their morning prayer. The police were promptly notified.



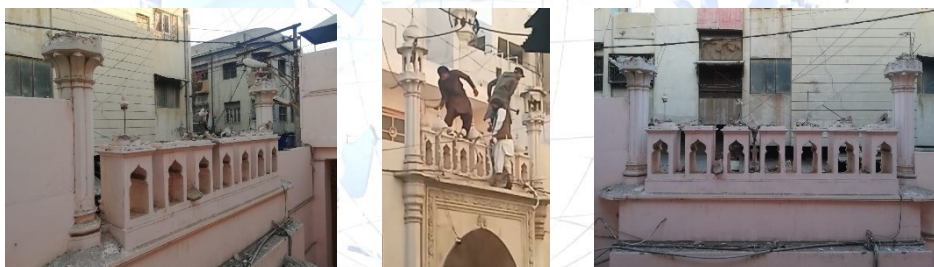
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**February 03, 2023:** In another similar incident, the Ahmadiyya mosque located in Goth Ghazi Khan Marani, District Mirpur Khas was vandalized on February 3, 2023. In the darkness of night, the perpetrators brought down the minarets of the mosque and set fire to the courtyard. Footprints were discovered outside the mosque and authorities are working to identify the attackers.



**February 02, 2023:** Around 3:30 p.m., opponents destroyed the minaret of Ahmadiyya Hall, Sadar Karachi. According to the report, there were between five to ten individuals involved. Four of them placed a food stall bench near the entrance, climbed over the wall, and used hammers to shatter the minaret. The rest of the opponents raised slogans against the Community. The attackers then fled into the crowd after the quick attack that took only four to five minutes. The police, who were on duty, attempted to intervene but were overpowered by the aggressive opponents and were forced to retreat. Despite clear footage, no arrest has been made in response to the complaint filed with the police.



**January 18, 2023:** A group of three to four troublemakers climbed a ladder to gain access to the Ahmadiyya mosque located on Martin Road in Karachi and wrecked the two minarets at the front. Upon the arrival of the police, the perpetrators fled the scene, leaving behind the ladder and the hammer. So far, no arrests have been made.







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**January 10, 2023:** The Punjab Police demolished the minarets of the Ahmadiyya mosque located in Moti Bazar Wazirabad at midnight without any lawful reason. So far, the Ahmadiyya Muslim community could not register an FIR against this unlawful act.



The right to worship and practice religion freely and safely is a fundamental human right, and it is essential that the authorities take appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security of all citizens, regardless of faith. Upon this recent escalation in attacks, spokesperson of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan said;

*"The coordinated assaults on the Ahmadiyya Jamaat's places of worship by hooligans demonstrate that this is the handiwork of religious fanatics who are indifferent to the damage their malicious deeds are causing to the nation's reputation in the international arena.*

*Over the past 48 hours, there have been orchestrated attacks on Ahmadi places of worship in Sindh, leading to concerns of further violence. It is imperative that the government of Sindh swiftly implements measures to ensure the safety and security of Ahmadis and their religious institutions."*

We implore the global community to voice their opposition to this serious injustice and make sure that the Pakistani government assures the safety of all religious places for its citizens.

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