

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jun 17, 2024

SEVEN AHMADIS ARRESTED IN PAKISTAN ON THE EVE OF EID AL-ADHA ELEVEN DETAINED SO FAR, EIGHT STILL IN CUSTODY

DENIAL OF RELIGIOUS RITES TO PATRIOTIC AHMADIS: A GRAVE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION

June 17, 2024: Another 07 Ahmadis were taken into custody by the police along with their sacrificial animals such as goats etc. This brings the total to 11 Ahmadis detained for Eid-related activities, with 08 still behind bars. These actions contravenes Article 20 of the Constitution of Pakistan and decisions laid down by the Supreme Court of Pakistan, which guarantees Ahmadis the freedom to practice their faith within confinement of four walls (Cr1.P.916-L/2021, January 12, 2022¹). Despite these legal protections, authorities continue to deny Ahmadis their religious rights.

ARRESTS AND HARASSMENT:

Ahmadis across Punjab are facing severe harassment at the hands of the law enforcement officials. In various districts of the province of Punjab the police officials have forcibly entered into the homes of various Ahmadis, thereafter, acting extrajudicially, has detained individuals along with their livestock.

- On June 16, the police officials have detained further 07 Ahmadis along with their sacrificial animals:
 - o An Ahmadi in Nadeem Abad, Daska, District Sialkot.
 - o o An Ahmadi in Khokarki, District Gujranwala.
 - o Five Ahmadis in Thana Motrah, District Sialkot.
- Earlier, the Deputy Commissioner in Chakwal issued orders for the detention of 03 Ahmadis for one month without any just cause. (*Release issued earlier*²)
- An Ahmadi has been detained for 07 days in Sialkot on June 15. (Annex 1)
- in Railway Colony, Lahore the police officials forcibly entered the house of an Ahmadi and also harassed the entire family.
- In Lodhi Nangal, Faisalabad, the police officials forcibly entered into an Ahmadi's house, taking him and his sacrificial animal (a goat) into custody, forcing him to sell his sacrificial animal (a goat) at a loss in order to appease the outromists.
- In Gujranwala, the police officials took an Ahmadi and his two-month-old sacrificial animal (a goat) into custody.

¹ www.supremecourt.gov.pk/downloads_judgements/crl.p. 916 | 2021.pdf

² www.persecutionofahmadis.org/persecution/imprisonment-in-the-name-of-religion/2024/06/11/arrest-of-three-ahmadis-in-chakwal/





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Due to the pressure from the extremists element, the Punjab Police officials are relentlessly harassing Ahmadis during the festivities of Eid al-Adha thus pressurizing them not only to perform the Eid prayers but also not to offer their religious rite of sacrifice within the confinement of their own homes. Ahmadis are being summoned to police stations and are threatened with harm from members of the Tehrik-e-Labbaik Pakistan (the "TLP") in the event if an Ahmadi is found performing their religious rites. It has also been learned that a "threat alert" based on the possibility of violence against Ahmadis on the occasion of Eid al-Adha has been issued by government agencies.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS AND VIOLATION OF RIGHTS:

Despite clear directives by the Superior Courts affirming Ahmadis' rights, the government and the police officials continue to violate these directives.

- The Assistant Commissioner, Qaidabad, District Khushab has banned Ahmadis from sacrificing animals this year, based on a letter from the Home Department, Punjab. (Both letters are given as Annex 2)
- Government orders from Mirpur and Kotli in Azad Kashmir explicitly banned Ahmadis from performing any kind of slaughter or sacrifice during Eid al-Adha. (Mirpur Annex 2 & Kotli Annex 3)

This governmental complacency emboldens extremist elements, placing Ahmadis in grave danger, especially on a significant religious occasion like Eid al-Adha.

Amir Mahmood, spokesperson of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan, has condemned these actions. He has stated, "The systematic human rights violations against Ahmadis by extremists and their police patrons, using the holy name of religion, are turning Pakistan into a global laughingstock. There is a need to reject this bigoted thinking. We demand the immediate release of the detained Ahmadis and that immediate steps are taken to ensure the religious freedom of Ahmadis as guaranteed by the Constitution and the Supreme Court."

URGENT APPEAL:

We urgently appeal to the international community, human rights organizations, national institutions, law & enforcement agencies, and other influential entities to immediately take notice of these grave violations. The ongoing persecution of Ahmadi Muslims, especially around the sacred occasion of Eid al-Adha, is unacceptable. Immediate intervention is needed to ensure their safety and religious freedom. By the time you receive this release, it will be Eid in Pakistan. The situation is critical, and there is a serious concern about what may unfold on Eid day. Please act now to prevent further injustice and protect the fundamental rights of Ahmadis in Pakistan.

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ANNEX

Phone No. 052-9250321/Fax No. 052-9250328.

From:

The District Police Officer,

Sialkot.

To:

The Deputy Commissioner,

Sialkot.

No. 10204

/SB dated 15 -06->4

Subject:

DETENTION ORDERS

Memorandum:

Please refer to the subject cited above.

2. It is submitted that as per report of SHO PS City Daska, forwarded by DSP/SDPO Daska Circle, the activities of following person is prejudicial and a threat to the public safety & maintenance of public order. His activities are prejudicial and a threat to the public safety & maintenance of public order. There is a likely-hood that he will create unrest in the general public and create law & order situation. Such activities are required to be controlled to ensure peaceful atmosphere and tranquility.

It is therefore, requested that Mr. Qaisar Imran s/o Sharif 3. Caste Malik r/o Mohalla Choudhrian Purana Daska, PS City Daska may kindly be detained for the period of 07 days under the provisions of section 3 of the MPO so that the masses may be saved from the unlawful activities of the said activist in the utmost interest of the state.

> Police Officer District Sialkot





MUSLIM FOREIGN MISSIONS OFFICE

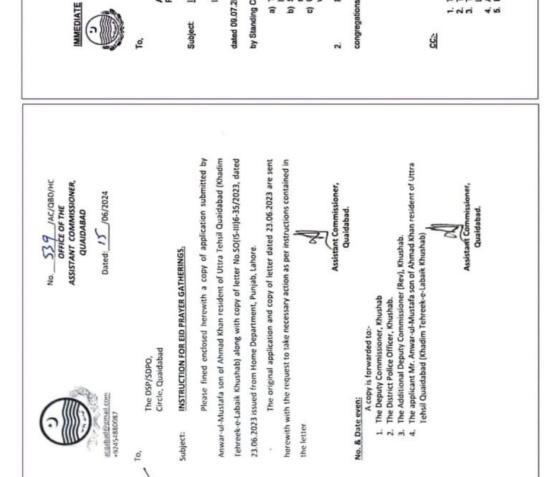
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ANNEX 2

In continuation to this Department's letter No.SO(1S-III)6-35/2022, dated 09.07.2022, on the subject captioned above and following decisions taken to be provided at Eid congregations at 710 Security at Category-B at 2709 and Category-C at 30,105 locations shall be revolved. 핊 be provided as per standard operating procedure.

Muslims shall be allowed to perform Qurbani in accordance Punjab, (Muhammad Nadoem Mirza)
SECTION OFFICER
(INTERNAL SECURITY-III) ensure the security of the above mentioned by Standing Committee of the Cabinet on Law & Order held on 06,07,2022:-No.SO(IS-III)6-35/2023 GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB HOME DEPARTMENT Dated Lahore the, 23th June, 2023 Additional Inspector General (CTD), Punjab, Lahore. Additional Inspector General (Special Branch), INSTRUCTIONS FOR EID PRAYER GATHERINGS The Provincial Police Officer / IGP, Punjab. Lahore. All the Divisional Commissioners, Punjab. PS to ACS (Home), Punjab, Lahore. congregations in consultation with LEAs as per allove All Deputy Commissioners, Punjab. with Islamic rites Please

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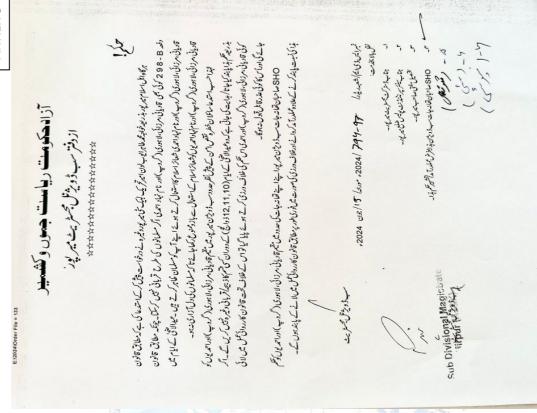




MISSIONS OFFICE

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ANNEX 3



directed/instructed through this order that they will not perform any kind of Muslims. Since Qadiani, Mirzais, Lahori (Group) and so-called Ahmadis use Islamic qurbani/sacrifice during the days of Eid-ul-Adha (10^{th} , 11^{th} , and 12^{th} Dhul Hijjah). If any Khwaja Muhammad Tahir Ayub Lone, Amir Tehreek Labbaik City Mirpur, and others, who have submitted a petition requesting that, in accordance with Section 298-B of the law, no Qadiani, Mirzai, Lahori (Group) or so-called Ahmadi can perform sacrifices like Therefore, in view of the threat to peace and security, Qadiani, Mirzais, Lahori (Group) and Ahmadis residing within the limits of Sub Division Mirpur are hereby symbols to present themselves as Muslims, it is requested that Qadiani, Mirzais, Lahori Group) and so-called Ahmadis be prohibited from using Islamic symbols during Eid-ul-Qadiani, Mirzai, Lahori Group or Ahmadi is found violating this order, legal action will be taken against him/her and no excuse will be acceptable. Adha to avoid hurting the sentiments of Muslims.

Mirzais, Lahori (Group) and Ahmadis residing within the limits of their respective police stations comply with this order and take action against any violations promptly in SHOs of Police Stations in Sub Division Mirpur are directed to ensure that Qadiani, accordance with the law.

Sub Divisional Magistrate Mirpur Sign & Stamp

Number: SDM/Branch Reader 97-794/2024 Date: 15/June/2024 Copy forwarded to:

SHOs of Police Stations in this Sub Division for necessary action and dissemination of this order.

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Senior Superintendent of Police, District Mirpur Tehsil Mufti Sahib Mirpur District Magistrate Mirpur

ORDER!

t has been brought to the attention of the authorities that Muslims in Mirpur, through

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Translation

Azad Jammu and Kashmir Government

Office of the Sub Divisional Magistrate Mirpur

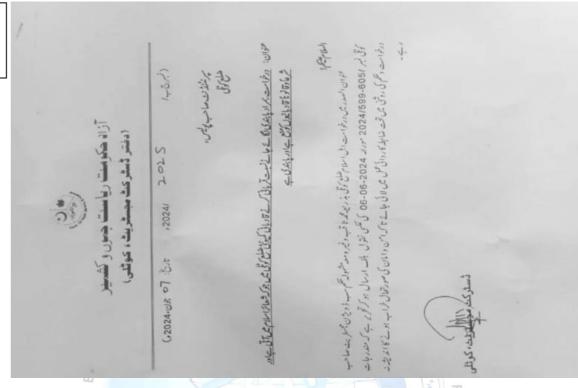




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ANNEX 4



Subject: Request to impose a ban on Qadianis to perform sacrifices in District Kotli, which is considered an Islamic practice and is legally and religiously prohibited for Qadiyanis.

Assalamo Alaikum!

With reference to the above subject, a request has been submitted by the Muslims of District Kotli through Muhammad Saqib and others, along with attached photocopies of the order of the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Kotli No. 2024/599-605/ dated 06-06-2024, stating that in the light of the contents of the application and order, action should be taken under the law so that there is no risk of disturbing the law and order situation.

District Magistrate, Kotli

Date: 07 June 2024)

/2024

2025

No. J.B.

Superintendent of Police

District Kotli

Azad Jammu and Kashmir Government (Office of the District Magistrate, Kotli)

Translation