

UNABATED PERSECUTIONS OF AHMADI/ AHMADIYYA/ QADYANI MUSLIMS IN PAKISTAN

The Sunni majority makes up 76-80% of the total population of Pakistan and vehemently refuses to call Ahmadis (Ahmadiyya or Qadyani) Muslims. The Sunni forced Ahmadis not to bury their dead bodies in the Sunni cemeteries. The Ahmadis have endured prolonged persecution in Pakistan.

On September 7, 1974, the Pakistani Parliament, led by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Zulfikar (Zulfiqar) Ali Bhutto, passed the [Second Amendment](#) to the Constitution, defining the followers of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, generally known as “Ahmedis, Ahmadiyya, and Qadyanis” as non-Muslims.

Since then, hundreds of the members of the Ahmadiyya community have been killed, thrown in jails, and deprived of employment opportunities. Tens of thousands have left Pakistan. Since the declaration, the Ahmadiyya community has been subjected to continuous persecution and discrimination by the succeeding governments and vigilantes. Ahmadiyya community is not allowed to call their worship place a masjid (mosque) like the rest of the Muslims. It is also a punishable offense for Ahmadis to call themselves Muslim refer to their faith as Islam or use references from Muslim books. Another former military Chief and President Zia-ul-Haq added Sections 295B, 295C, 298A, 298B, and 298C as part of his Islamic revolution and to promote Sunni Islam, and likewise sects Deobandi, Hanafi, and other fundamentalists bred radicalized in particular in the Madrassahs of India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan; all three countries were unified until 1947 under the British Raj. Under Sections 298-B & C of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), Section 298-C of the PPC prohibits the Ahmadiyya community from identifying themselves as Muslims. Under Section 298-C of PPC, "Any person of the Qadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves "Ahmadis" or by any other name), who directly or indirectly poses himself as a Muslim, or calls, or refers to, his faith as Islam, or preaches or propagates his faith, or invites others to accept his faith, by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representations, or in any manner whatsoever outrages the religious feelings of Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine."

Every year, dozens of Ahmadi worship places and Ahmadi graves are attacked, desecrated, and demolished by the police and the religious fundamentalists. Dead bodies of the members of the Ahmadi communities refuse the burials, and the old graves are dug and defaced.

The demolitions of the Ahmadi worship places and minarets violated the Supreme Court of Pakistan 2014 ruling of the then Chief Justice of Pakistan, Tassaduq Hussain Jilani, on religious freedom and the freedom to exercise faith and the government's responsibility to protect minorities' properties. On August 31, 2023, the Lahore High Court Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh also ruled that Paragraph 16 of the Judgment under Sections 298-B and 298-C of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) does not mandate the razing or alteration of the structures of the Ahmadiyya places of worship built before Ordinance XX of 1984.

SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN UNDIGNIFIED AND COWARD REVERSAL

In August 2024, fearing the radicals, the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa had to reverse his ruling in the Mubarak Sani blasphemy case. The TLP announced head money on CJP if he would not reverse his ruling while thousands of TLP supporters entered Islamabad for a possible invasion of the Supreme Court. The Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman Allama Raghbir Hussain Naemi told the media that a religious party sent over 400 threatening messages to Justice Qazi Faez Isa in the Mubarak Sani case. The terrified Naemi did not dare to mention TLP. Mubarak Sani, a member of the Ahmadi community, had published and distributed a book, Tafsir-i Saghir, an interpretation of the Muslim Holy Book.

The persecution, murders, arrests, desecration of Ahmadi graves, and the demolition of the Ahmadi worship places have increased many folds in the last few years after the emergence of a radical group, Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP). The TLP members have infiltrated the police and the administration and are responsible for the killings of Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis accused of blasphemy.

On September 13, 2024, An off-duty policeman, Syed (Saad) Khan Sarhadi, shot dead a blasphemy suspect at the Cantonment Police Station in Quetta. Blasphemy suspect Abdul Ali alias Lala was in police custody. On September 19, 2024, The police shot dead a blasphemy suspect, Dr. Shah Nawaz Kumbhar, in an alleged encounter after taking him into custody a day before in Mirpurkhas/Umerkot, Sindh province.

The Ahmadi community has played an undeniable part in the creation of Pakistan and served the state of Pakistan with honor. Sir Chaudhry Muhammad [Zafarullah Khan](#) was a Pakistani jurist and diplomat who served as the first Foreign Minister of Pakistan. After serving as foreign minister, he continued his international career as the only Pakistani to preside over the International Court of Justice. [Mohammad Abdus Salam](#) was a Pakistani theoretical physicist. He shared the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physics with Sheldon Glashow and Steven Weinberg for his contribution to the electroweak unification theory.

DESECRATION AND DEMOLITION OF GRAVES AND AHMADI WORSHIP PLACES - 2024

January 2024 – October 20, 2024: <http://www.freedomtalk.net/> had documented 18 incidents of attacks, desecration, and demolitions of the Ahmadi's worship places, properties, gravestones, and the refusal of the burials of the Ahmadi funerals.

Go to <http://www.freedomtalk.net/> Section "MINORITIES | BLASPHEMY | TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY," and our annual reports for details and timelines of the persecution against Ahmadi.

KILLINGS BASED ON AHMADI FAITH – 2024

July 27, 2024: Two unknown motorcyclists shot dead Zakaur Rehman at his dental office in Alipur village, Lala-musa City, the Punjab province. Zakaur Rehman, 53, had been shot three times and died on the spot while the killers fled the crime scene. Mr. Rehman belonged to the Muslim minority Ahmadiyya (Ahmadi) community. On June 08, 2024: A 19-year-old fundamentalist, brainwashed by the known terrorist outfit Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP)s', open and repeated calls to kill Ahmadiyya Muslims, killed two members of Ahmadi faith, 64-year-old Ghulam Sarwar and 30-year-old Rahat Bajwah in Mandi Bahauddin, the Punjab province. The killer was attending a seminary and confessed to the killings as part of his faith.

SENTENCING & PERSECUTION – 2024

On September 19, 2024, Judge Mohammad Afzal Majoka sentenced to death a 40-year-old Pakistani Christian woman, Shagufta Kiran, over alleged blasphemy under Section 295-C. In August 2024, the police arrested 18-year-old twin Christian brothers Tabish Shahid and Kalu Shahid and Christian boy Abid Saddique over blasphemy allegations following police report 731/24 and booked them for blasphemy under Section 295B. On March 21, 2024, a Session court judge sentenced a Muslim woman, Asiya Bibi, to life imprisonment over blasphemy under section 295-B of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) over allegations of desecrating the Holy Book of Islam in Lahore, the Punjab province. On September 10, 2024, Privately-owned Superior College fired a teacher, Syed Ahmad, for his affiliation with the Ahmadi community in Sambrial, Sialkot, the Punjab province. Mr. Ahmad had to run from the college for his life.

STATE-SPONSORED HATE INITIATIVES – 2024

On September 7, 2024, the Pakistan Senate approved a resolution presented by Maulana Attaur Rehman for an annual public holiday on September 7 to commemorate the 1974 declaration by the Parliament, which declared Qadianis (Ahmadi/ Ahmadiyya) as non-Muslim through the second constitutional amendment.

In June 2024, the local administrations and the fundamentalists continued intimidations, threats, and arrests to stop the Muslim minority Ahmadiyya (Ahmadi) community from slaughtering animals on Eid-ul-Adha, a mandatory religious ritual for Muslims. Slaughtering animals on Eid is part of the Muslim faith, but religious fundamentalists deny accepting Ahmadis as MUSLIMS. Armed members of the terrorist outfit Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) fired at, desecrated, and destroyed the minarets and arch of an Ahmadi worship place in Kotli, Pakistani-controlled Kashmir, on June 17, 2024 (Eid day). At least ten Ahmadi men were arrested, including a 13-year-old Ahmadi boy for keeping a lamb (the police seized the lamb) and an Ahmadi man who was slaughtering an animal in his house after someone reported that to TLP in the Punjab province.

The district administration in Chakwal has decided to pre-emptively detain three members of the local Ahmadiyya Community ahead of Eidul Adha on the pretext that these individuals may indulge in "unlawful activities and acting in a manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of the public order." The Chakwal Deputy Commissioner Quratulain Malik, on June 10, 2024, issued three notifications (Nos 2253-2255), approving the detention of three individuals under Section 3(1) of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) Ordinance 1967. The three individuals are Tahir Ahmed, Malik Naveed Ahmed, and Riaz Ahmed Malik. All three are residents of the Dulmial in Tehsil Choa Saidan Shah. In the notice, the Chakwal District Police Officer told Deputy Commissioner Malik that these men "may cause deterioration for law and order situation in the area" while describing the individuals as "miscreants." The notification further said that the matter had been discussed in the district intelligence committee, which met on June 10, 2024, and unanimously recommended: "that to prevent society from their (sic) activities, which are quite detrimental to public peace and tranquility, sectarian harmony, as well as law and order situation, it is very necessary that they (sic) may be detained under section 3(1) of the MPO, 1960." "Considering the above-mentioned grounds given by the district police officer Chakwal and evidence of his conduct being prejudicial to public peace as depicted in the report of the district police officer, Chakwal, I am fully satisfied that in order to prevent the said person from acting in any manner prejudicial to public safety or the maintenance of public order, their detention is necessary and expedient in public interest."

STATE'S CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE

Leaders and members of religious extremist groups, vigilantes, and clerics continued to disseminate hate against minorities with the silent approval of the succeeding governments. The hate speeches are made in public and openly threaten minorities and critics with beheadings, blasphemy charges, and public hanging with bounties. At least 98 percent of the blasphemy allegations are the outcome of personal enmity and misunderstandings and attract more fundamentalist followers. The TLP remained a frightening group for minorities. Pakistan has repeatedly surrendered to the demands of TLP. The hate speeches are being delivered across the country.

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