



INTERNATIONAL **HUMAN RIGHTS** COMMITTEE

Ensuring Justice for All

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Report

October to December 2015

Editorial

This Report specifically focuses on the persecution suffered by Ahmadi Muslims during October - December 2015. During this period the radical and extremist Mullahs have taken upon a mission to spread hate speech, incite terror and animosity towards Ahmadis due to which Ahmadis are obvious and helpless victims to religiously motivated attacks that have caused permanent damage to their mosque, houses, their business and even their factory.

A recent example of this brutal persecution was witnessed in the city of Jhelum, when the extremist Mullahs riled up and enraged a mob of 2,000 people to attack a Chipboard factory in Jhelum owned by an Ahmadi Muslim. These attacks were carried out in response to rumours that an Ahmadi factory employee had committed Blasphemy. After burning down the whole factory and its nearby residence premises, the uproar against Ahmadis attracted other extremists overnight and the next day an Ahmadi mosque was set alight.

These incidents magnetise open and fearless hate speech all across Pakistan; encouraging Hate crimes against Ahmadis, without any fear of prosecution or arrest by the Government. The number of target killings and incidents of violence and intolerance continue to increase, where Ahmadi Muslim businessmen and professionals are first-hand targets.

Various Khatam-e-Nabuwat conferences and events continue to call for further inequities and injustice to be carried out against Ahmadi Muslims. Calls to ban all Ahmadi activities have been made with the aim to completely segregate the Ahmadis from the societies and deny them fundamental Human Rights and Freedom.

The Ahmadi Muslim community in Pakistan is perhaps the most obviously persecuted religious group in the world today. Ahmadi Muslims suffer a unique combination of virulent media commentary, violence and hatred orchestrated by an opposing religious group founded specifically to eradicate the Ahmadi Muslims, active State repression through specific anti-Ahmadi laws and passive State tolerance of violence against Ahmadi Muslims. It is a lethal combination that makes normal life impossible and prevents meaningful communal worship to an extent where threats, violence and martyrdom are part of daily life for Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan.

We will continue to work with our international partners to remind Pakistan to faithfully respect and observe the UN Charter of Human Rights and to allow Ahmadis their basic fundamental human rights without any form of hindrance.

Three Ahmadis Survive Gun Attack

Three members of a family were shot at brutally when they returned home at night on October 11, 2015 in Gulshan Iqbal, Karachi.

Mr. Saleem Rafaqat along with his two nephews, Mr. Moaaz Ahmad and Mr. Shamir



Ahmad aged 20 and 17 years returned home after offering evening prayers. When they reached in front of their house, two unidentified men opened fire at them. They were immediately shifted to a hospital. One bullet was removed from Mr. Rafaqat's neck which touched his back bone, disturbing the movement of his feet. The other bullet fractured the bone of his arm and damaged his hand.

Another bullet grazed past the head of Moaaz. He was discharged from the hospital after first aid.

Shamir Ahmad was critically injured. A bullet pierced through his abdomen from right to left, damaging his vital organs. His stomach and liver were badly damaged. He remained on ventilator and survived the attack following several operations.

An Islamist organization claimed credit for this attack. The claim was widely circulated in the social media. Its original is reproduced here along with its translation:

"Lion-hearted Mujahedeen of the Islamic Kingdom of Khurasan targeted three Qadianis (apostates) even in the tough conditions of Karachi, thanks to God. Operations by intelligence agencies are on the increase in Karachi. Mujahideen are being arrested daily. Despite that, praise is to God, they targeted Qadianis and Rawafiz (Shia) who are the biggest supporters of Kafirs. Mujahedeen have presented a sample to the Qadianis through this successful action. We warn them to stop their proselytisation and close down their worship places. Otherwise, we will keep on killing the blasphemers, by the will of God."

This is not the first time that these attacks have taken place, for Ahmadis in Pakistan are living under continued threat of life for not just themselves but their families and fellow Ahmadi brothers and sisters.

Enraged Mob Sets Fire to Ahmadi Factory

An enraged mob set an Ahmadi factory on fire in Jhelum city late on Friday 20th November 2015.

The reason being a false accusation on an Ahmadi factory worker of blasphemy that caused thousands to rile up against Ahmadis to burn down the factory including the Ahmadi owners' and workers' residence within the factory premises.

As soon as the news of the arrest of Qamar Ahmed Tahir – An Ahmadi security head at the chipboard factory – over false blasphemous allegations spread, this resulted in an enraged mob torching the factory late at night, with workers – many of whom were Ahmadis – inside. Announcements were made in mosques calling present worshippers to 'renew their faith' by attacking the

Ahmadi factory and burning it down to ashes. Chanting "We will beat them, we will lynch them".

A clash between the mob and the police followed, with the Police being left with no alternative but firing rubber bullets and spraying tear gas to control this mayhem. Three men were reportedly injured in this unrest. Eyewitnesses said that the police tried to stop the mob so it wouldn't burn people alive.

"A mere accusation of blasphemy can turn a group of people into a blood-thirsty mob."

The mob later moved to the Grand Trunk Road, blocked the route and chanted slogans against the police. Subsequently, armed forces' personnel were called which resulted in the mob dispersing away from the factory. No casualties were reported from the arson attack as Ahmadi workers managed to flee for their lives leaving away their life long earnings and possessions to be burned into ashes given the hopeless state of plea for help or support of any kind.



Ahmadi Mosque Attacked and Set Alight by Extremists in Jhelum

JHELUM: An enraged mob set an Ahmadi mosque on fire on Saturday, 21st November 2015 following Friday night's arson attack on a factory owned by an Ahmadi.

The mosque located in the Kala Gojran area of Jhelum, was under guard of local police forces due to Friday night's factory arson attack.



The mob managed to break through the police cordon. Police were unable to control the situation and had to resort to baton charging and using tear gas against the protesters. Instead of putting a stop to their unjustified actions; this resulted in the mob resorting to pelting stones at the police. The Ahmadi mosque was broken into, prayer mats and furniture were thrown out, and the mob burned Ahmadi literature. After which they washed the mosque and prayed there.

The mob even tried to burn Ahmadi houses near the mosque after looting them.

As tensions rose, a contingent of the Pakistan Army was called in to assist the local police forces in controlling the chaos. After the arrival of the army, the situation calmed down slowly. Thankfully no lives were lost.

“The ban on hate speech seems little more than paperwork”

Since the two attacks, members of the Ahmadiyya community fled Jhelum upon the instructions from the community. The most interesting thing is that this incident took place in the presence of law enforcement agencies which makes you question the implementation of the National Action Plan.

Saleemuddin Haq (Ahmadiyya Community spokesperson) says that “The attacks on the factory and the mosque signify barefaced targeting of the Ahmadiyya community.”



Calls to Ban All Activities of Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan

Following the petition seeking directives for Chiniot police 'to prevent the Ahmadiyya community from offering ritual sacrifice on Eid-ul-Azha disposed of by Lahore High Court with a directive for the DPO to proceed with the matter in accordance with law.' This has shifted the focus of extremists to now target banning all activities of Ahmadis in Pakistan. The leader of Jamiat Ulama Islam, Sargodah and Worldwide Khatm e Nabuwat Movement, Pir Muhammad Afzal al Hussaini said in his statement:

"If government does not stop the rising activities of Qadianis, religious scholars and parties will come on road for protest. All activities of Qadianis must be banned."

"Government must impose a ban on Qadianiat" Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema - The secretary general of Majlis Ahrar Islam, Pakistan.

"It is important to stop the entry of Qadianis into Harmeen Sharifeen (Holy Cities of Mecca of Medina)" Shabbir Usmani The central vice president of Worldwide Khatm e Nabuwat Movement.

These above quotes have come from the so-called influential scholars and 'Imams' of Pakistan, in their efforts to unite the extremist and non-extremist Muslims alike to segregate the Ahmadis from the society and encourage persecution and derogatory treatment of the Ahmadis in Pakistan by banning all of their activities. The incidents that have taken place so far of communal hatred and violence against Ahmadis is evidence of the provocative Hate speech and 'irrevocable fatwa's' of Mullahs against Ahmadis.

"The silence of the government authorities and agencies has encouraged extremists to snatch away the basic Human Rights of every Ahmadi Muslim."

It is quotes like these that have not just instigated target killings of well educated and reputable Ahmadis but has also brought forth other hate crimes such as families being targeted and kidnapped, mosques being destroyed and sealed, an increase in anti-Ahmadi conferences and rallies, social segregation of Ahmadis, their businesses destroyed and factories set alight. The silence of the government authorities and agencies on the aforementioned matters has encouraged extremists to snatch away the basic Human Rights of every Ahmadi Muslim. Or it has at the very least taken away the privilege to be able to live in one's country with peace and harmony and freedom to practice their faith without fear of persecution or threat.

Ban Sought on Eid Sacrifice of Animals by Ahmadi Muslims

LAHORE: A petition seeking directives for Chiniot police to prevent the Ahmadiyya community from offering ritual sacrifice on Eidul Azha was disposed of by Lahore High Court with a directive for the DPO to proceed in the matter in accordance with law.

On receiving the order a few days before Eid, the DPO sought guidance from the inspector general of Punjab police. The DPO has yet to receive a response from the office of the IGP.

In the petition submitted on September 12, Nasir Mahmood, a Faisal Town resident, had submitted that he had read in an online newspaper published by the community that sacrificial animals would be slaughtered on the Eid day at Chenabnagar. He said that the Constitution did not allow the Ahmadiyya community to sacrifice animals on Eidul Azha. He had requested the court to direct Chiniot police to prevent the community from sacrificing animals.

Saleemudin, a Jamaat Ahmadiyya spokesperson, lamented that it had become very difficult for community members to sacrifice animals on Eidul Azha. He said he had been receiving reports for several years about use of police

force by sectarian groups to prevent community members from performing the ritual. He said that instead of arranging security for community members who wanted to sacrifice animals on Eid, the police were preventing them from doing so.

Saleemuddin referred to an incident from last year in Sabzazar area. He said that a few days before Eid Hanjarwal police had raided the house of an Ahmadi family and taken into custody a male member. He said the man was released after the family submitted a written undertaking assuring the police that they would not slaughter an animal on the Eid day. He said similar incidents had been reported by community members in Sant Nagar and Township in 2013.


Similar incidents were reported this year from Sant Nagar, Township, North Cantonment, Mustafa Town and Johar Town. Member from Ahmadiyya families and their sacrificial animals were reportedly detained by the police. They were released after they submitted a written assurance that they would not slaughter any animal during Eid days.

Speaking to The Express Tribune, North Cantonment DSP Mansoor said he did it to prevent unrest in the area.

About Us

The International Human Rights Committee (IHRC) focuses on human rights abuses/violations throughout the world with a specific focus on Ahmadi Muslims. The IHRC has specific expertise in relation to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community having worked with and understanding their issues throughout the world.

By focusing international attention on the violation of human rights of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, we give voice to the oppression faced by Ahmadi Muslims endeavouring to bring the perpetrators of such crimes to account. The head office of the IHRC is based in London, England. The IHRC works with governments, NGOs, communities and human rights organisations particularly on Ahmadi Muslim issues.

The United Nations logo, featuring a light blue map of the world centered on the Atlantic Ocean, surrounded by a wreath of olive branches.

“All people should be granted equal rights
without discrimination or prejudice.
This is the key to peace.”

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