

## Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan News Report January 2016

An Ahmadi murdered

**Rabwah; January 11, 2016:**

Mr. Bilal Ahmad was shot dead by unknown pillion riders here.

He closed his shop and was on his way home at approximately 9 p.m. Some unknown pillion riders opened fire at him and fled. Three bullets hit Mr. Ahmad in his head, shoulder and back. He was taken immediately to Allied Hospital Faisalabad but did not survive the injuries.

Jamaat Ahmadiyya spokesperson Mr. Saleemuddin said that attacking a non-controversial Ahmadi man with such barbarity was shocking, adding that the motive behind the cold-blooded murder was not yet clear.

Ahmadi made to flee from job

**Islamabad; December 25/26, 2015:**

Mr. Inamul Haq, the admin manager of a hotel in Islamabad had a close escape from serious harm. His story can be told in outline, as details would expose him and his helpers to risk once again.

On December 25, 2015, Mr. Haq was sent for by the general manager in his office. There, a mulla and two others were also sitting. The G.M. showed him photos of the founder of Ahmadiyyat and his Khalifas and asked him if he knew them and believed in their claims. Mr. Haq was taken aback by this frontal attack on his personal belief, unrelated to his job. However, he replied in the affirmative. The mulla asked him to recite the *Kalima*, which he did. The mulla however refused to accept his recital and declared that he was not 'sincere' about the recitation, and that any non-believer in 'end of prophethood' was a *kafir*. The G.M. told Mr. Haq to go back to his office.

Later a member of the hotel staff told Mr. Haq that he was at great risk and should leave at the earliest. At about midnight someone knocked at his door. The next morning he noticed combustible material outside his room. On inquiry, he was told that it had been placed there on the orders of the G.M.

At about noon, he was again informed by his informers that he was at risk and should escape as early as possible. Accordingly, Mr. Haq departed discreetly and arrived at Margalla railway station. While waiting for the train he noticed that a man from the hotel security detail had followed him there. Mr. Haq hid himself in a toilet, and came out only after the train departed from the station.

Mr. Haq saw no pursuers subsequently and arrived at his destination safely.

Incidents in Gujranwala

**January 2016:**

Mr. Muhammad Asif, Ahmadi, was working as electrician in a private company here for the last eight years. Now, when his colleagues became aware of his religious affiliation, they manhandled him and locked him inside a bath room. He remained there for the whole day. Out of pity, some elderly person opened the door in the evening and advised him to flee.

The owner of the company took no action against the evil-doers, instead he fired Mr. Asif from his job and did not even pay his due salary of preceding two months.

Mr. Asif is facing similar problems at his new job.

### ***Kachi Pump Wali:***

Following two incidents have been reported from a locality in Gujranwala where three females were asphyxiated to death in anti-Ahmadi riots on July 27, 2014. After the riots, the families were shifted elsewhere due to security concerns. Now that the families are being shifted back, the hate-mongers are attempting to harass them.

- ***January 03, 2016:*** The vender cart of Mr. Waseem, an Ahmadi, was parked outside his house when some unknown person set it on fire. Mr. Waseem was informed and he rushed to extinguish the fire. However, more than half of the cart was badly damaged. Two bottles of gasoline were found at the spot. Police were informed of the incident; they arrived and collected the gasoline bottles.
- ***January 07, 2016:*** Mr. Muhammad Ashraf, an Ahmadi, parked his motorbike in the street outside his home. A youth came and examined the motorbike. Mr. Ashraf was watching his bike through a CCTV camera. Suddenly the boy inserted a key in the switch and kick started the motorbike. Mr. Ashraf rushed outside, held the thief and handed him over to the police.

Plight of an Ahmadi professor

### ***Jhang; November 2015:***

Mr. Munawwar Ahmad has become target of religion-based hostility at his work place. He is an associate professor and was head of the physics department in Government College Jhang. He is the only Ahmadi in the teaching staff. Some of his non-Ahmadi colleagues started a campaign against him in May 2015 when a new principal was appointed in the college. They made false reports to the principal and provoked him against Mr. Ahmad. At this the principal removed him from the post of head of the department and made him a coordinator. The principal threatened to appoint someone else as the head of the department if 'he would not mend his ways' and gave him a month to do that.

When the principal did not take any action against Mr. Ahmad after the dead-line, his antagonists got annoyed and upgraded their unethical and hateful drive. They put another lock on the lock of his cupboard in which he kept college records, and openly started a movement to have him removed from the college.

Mr. Ahmad has been advised to exercise caution in the face of such open hostility at his work-place.

The power imparted to the mulla in this 'land of the pure'

### ***Lahore; January 13, 2016:***

The daily The Express Tribune published the following report that throws a flood of light on the state of 'freedom of religion and faith' in Pakistan for citizens in general. It should be on record.

### **Interest in Ahmadiyya tenets makes citizen fear for life**

#### ***Local Maulvis threaten man with dire consequences***

Rana Yasif

LAHORE: A citizen was compelled on Tuesday to move the district and sessions court after being cautioned against perusing Ahmadiyya literature.

Petitioner Bilal Munawar told the court that some individuals had threatened to kill him after learning that he was reading Ahmadiyya texts. Munawar said he was a faithful, law abiding, enterprising and learned citizen. The petitioner said that he hailed from a moderate Muslim family. He said his elders had pledged allegiance to Jamaat-i-Ahmadiyya (JA) before converting to Islam in 1974.

Munawar said he had chanced upon some books belonging to his elders lying in his house's store. He said he had come to acquire a great deal of knowledge about theology, freedom of speech, importance

of prayer and its significance when offered alongside others by reading the books. Munawar said all the texts had been authored by one Mirza Bashirud Din Mahmood Ahmad (the second caliph of the JA).

He said his mother had counselled him to desist from reading any more Ahmadiyya literature. Munawar said she had told him to consign the books to flames saying that his parents had embraced Islam and the family had no links with the community. He told the court that he had come to discover that some of his elders, including his maternal grandfather and maternal uncle were noted orators and writers who had represented the community when it was in its formative stages. Munawar said scores of their books were still read the world over.

He said the great stature of his relatives had left an indelible mark on him and greatly stoked his interest in finding as much as he could about his elders and their accomplishments.

Munawar said this had left his mother perturbed who had reported his activities to Tahir, a local Maulvi. He said Tahir had told on him to other "rabid" Maulvis of the area. Munawar said Maulana Muhammad Naeem Qadri had then personally visited his house in a bid to prevent him from learning about JA founder Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, his teachings or Ahmadiyyat saying this would render him an infidel.

He said he had refused to accept Qadri's counsel as it was devoid of reason. Munawar said he, as an independent citizen, had every right to learn, read, analyse and delve into comparative religion. Munawar said fanatical Maulvis had turned against him on finding that he was taking great interest in Ahmadiyyat. He said they had made a habit of visiting his house time and again to coerce him. Munawar said he had also received threatening phone calls that had left him anxious and made him fear for his life.

He said he had then approached the relevant SHO and the CCPO's office in vain to have an FIR registered against unidentified individuals. Munawar implored the court to direct police to provide him security, probe the matter and register an FIR against those who had threatened to kill him.

Firm handling by the administration in Jhelum

**Jhelum; December 31, 2015:** The administration has apparently learnt some lesson after the dreadful incident of arson and attack on the Ahmadi-owned chipboard factory in Jhelum.

Mulla Akram Siddiqui was the key provocateur of that attack. He is the one who incited the people to violence on the loudspeaker of his mosque on the fateful day. Later investigations have shown that he is deeply involved in sectarian and extremist activities from his base in mosque/madrassah. The police arrested him on December 31, 2015.

The administration was apprehensive about the back-lash. The DCO called a meeting of the concerned civil society leaders including the media and clerics, and told them that Siddiqui had been arrested after due investigation and the issue should be left to the court to decide. He urged peace and restraint.

Undeterred, the son of mulla Siddiqui, who is also an imam of a local mosque, arranged to take out a protest rally. The police came out in strength and held a flag-march in the area. Ahmadiyya mosques were provided protection for the day. Ahmadis themselves remained on high security alert.

All went well and there was no violent incident. 'Where there is will, there is way'.

Ahmadis behind bars

1. A baseless case was registered against four Ahmadis, Messrs. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under

PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in police station Sharaqpur. Mr. Khalil Ahmad was then murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody on May 16, 2014. The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. They are in prison. Their bails were cancelled.

2. A fabricated case was registered against Mr. Tahir Mahdi Imtiaz, printer of the Ahmadiyya monthly Ansarullah, in Millat Town police station Lahore on April 16, 2014. He was arrested by the police on March 30, 2015 under the blasphemy clause PPC 295-A and anti-Ahmadiyya law PPC 298-C. A high court judge announced his bail but refused to sign the decision later. Thereafter a 2-member bench of LHC refused him bail. He remains in prison. His plea was heard by a two-member bench of the Supreme Court that withheld grant of the bail.
3. Mr. Qamar Ahmad was charged under PPC 295-B for alleged desecration of the Holy Quran in Jhelum, and was arrested on November 20, 2015. Bigots attacked the factory and Ahmadi's houses after his arrest and set them on fire after looting the valuables.
4. Officials of Punjab's Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) accompanied by a contingent of the Elite Force raided Shakoor Bhai's book shop, arrested Mr. Abdul Shakoor *aka* Shakoor Bhai and Mr. Mazhar Abbas shop assistant on December 2, 2015. A speedy trial in an Anti-terrorism court dispensed 5 years' imprisonment to each of the two accused, while Mr. Shakoor Bhai was sentenced in addition to three years' imprisonment under the anti-Ahmadiyya law.

From the media

**Chenab Nagar: (Ahmadi) Shopkeeper shot dead by motor cyclists**

*The daily Jang; Lahore, January 13, 2016*

**(Ahmadi) Bookseller gets five-year prison**

*The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, January 6, 2016*

**There can be no peace in the country until the extinction of Qadianis: Abdul Latif Cheema (Ahrar)**

*The daily Abtak; Lahore, January 9, 2016*

***Qadiani conspiracies back the terrorism: Dr Ahmad Ali Siraj.... He said that darkness and tyranny are destined to fade away; the entire world is now ready for the rule of justice and establishment of Khilafat ala minhajun nubuwah as a result of sacrifices of Mujahedin of Islam.***

*The daily Pakistan; Lahore, December 31, 2015*

**There is nothing Islamic about ISIS; it is a Jewish outfit: Seerat Khatam al Anbiya Conference (under IKNM)**

*The daily Jang; Lahore, January 4, 2016*

***Charsadda: Terrorists attack Bacha Khan University. 20 killed including lecturers and students. All 4 attackers killed in counter-attack.***

*The daily Jang; Lahore, January 21, 2016*

**15 die as suicide bomber strikes polio security team**

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 14, 2016*

**10 killed in Jamrud suicide attack**

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 20, 2016*

**FC loses six men in blast near Bolan**

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 19, 2016*

**Four policemen shot dead in Quetta**

*The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, January 29, 2016*

**Cleric held for inciting boy to chop off his hand**

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 17, 2016*

***IS is not there in Pakistan; hostile forces are beating the drum: Maulana Ludhianwi (ASWJ), Farid Piracha (JI), Mufti Raghob Naeemi***

*The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, January 8, 2016*

**Instability will continue for decades in many parts of the world – in the Middle East, in Afghanistan and Pakistan, in parts of central America, Africa and Asia: President Obama**

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 16, 2016*

***Bilawal terms govt inaction on NAP ‘criminal negligence’***

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 17, 2016*

**No action has been taken in the Punjab against any extremist organization: Bilawal Bhutto**

*The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 12, 2016*

***(Further) Restrictions on Qadianis in Indonesia is good news: (Mulla) Shabbir Usmani (of IKNM)***

*The daily Jang; Lahore, January 27, 2016*

**To all of our Muslim friends throughout the world... I am sorry: Lindsay Graham, Republican presidential candidate condemning Donald Trump’s proposal to bar Muslims from entering the U.S.**

*The weekly Time; December 28, 2015*

***Shia cleric among 47 executed in Saudi Arabia***

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 3, 2016*

**Protesters storm Saudi embassy in Tehran**

*The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, January 4, 2016*

***French president visits main Paris mosque***

*The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, January 11, 2016*

**U.S. is the leader of the World of Kufr: Maulana Qari Shabbir Usmani (of IKNM, International Khatme Nabuwwat Movement)**

*The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 11, 2016*

***We shall never allow Pakistan to turn into a liberal secular state. Imperialist forces shall not succeed: Fazlur Rahman (JUI)***

*The daily Dunya; Faisalabad, January 18, 2016*

**Foreign exchange worth 291 billion U.S. dollars transferred abroad during last 5 years. The maximum were sent last year: 64 billion 220 million US dollars.**

*The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 11, 2016*

***ASI-led gang of kidnappers busted (in Karachi)***

*The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 14, 2016*

**One person shot dead over dispute of two hundred rupees (less than 2 dollars) in Kahna (Lahore)**

*The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 11, 2016*

**Essay:**

**A nation of hate robots**

...Discrimination against Ahmadis for jobs, renting out houses or doing business is rampant. Public display of hatred came to light recently when the police arrested a shopkeeper from Hafeez Centre in Gulberg Lahore for barring Ahmadis from entering his premises.

*Mohammad Waseem in The News of January 17, 2016*

**Op-ed:**

**Beyond anti-Ahmadi 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment**

...The constitutional safeguards offer no protection and guarantee no rights against this criminalisation of the very existence of Ahmadis. It can only be undone by revisiting the

debates and processes that criminalised the religious and political identity of Ahmadis. Until and unless this happens, people like Shakoor bhai will continue to suffer.

*Ali Usman Qasmi in The News of January 24, 2016*

**Op-ed:**

**The Symbolic Danger of the CII**

...The Ahmadi issue is similar, in that it invariably provokes extreme sentiments and emotions that could potentially take a very dangerous turn, with the fight between Maulana Sherani and Maulana Ashrafi simply providing a demonstration of this fact. This does not mean, however, that the issue can be ignored, or that fear of reprisal should prevent standing up for what is right. At a time when shops and other public places openly put up signs barring Ahmadis from entry simply due to their religious beliefs, and in a context where it seems increasingly clear that the government's stated aim of eliminating religious extremism does not extend to policing the clearly inflammatory hate speech spewed out by sectarian leaders hoping to incite their followers to violence against minority communities, it is more important than ever to fight against the intolerance and bigotry that has spread across this country....

*Hassan Javid in The Nation of January 3, 2016*

**Op-ed:**

**Economic corridor and Shakoor Bhai Chashme Walay**

...Granted the validity of your concern regarding education; the education is not merely an exercise on books and class rooms, it is about the culture of raising questions. So if you agree with the culture of raising questions, let me ask on what basis 81-year old Shakoor Bhai was awarded 8-year imprisonment? Surely we could differ over it, but the truth is upheld by an uncommitted party. Another factor in favor of truth is the time factor, and the truth has a status. If we cannot raise question over injustice, our education, understanding, and moral stature shall remain questionable.

*Wajahat Masood in the daily Jang of January 12, 2016*