***Report about Kashmir Assembley Resolution***

Date: 04 May 2017

For the last few years, the maulwis in Azad Kashmir, Pakistan, have been trying to present a resolution in the Azad Kashmir Assembly regarding the Khatm-e-Nubuwwat. The resolution was also intended to declare Ahmadis as non-Muslim. Eventually, on 26 April 2017, Syed Ali Raza Bukhari, a member of the ruling party in Azad Kashmir, put a resolution before the assembly. The resolution aims at securing protection for the creed of Khatm-e-Nubuwwat, a ban on the activities of the Ahmadiyya Jama’at and declaring them as non-Muslim. The resolution also cites the fact that Azad Kashmir Assembly was first to declare Ahmadis as non-Muslim in 1973. However, proper laws could not be made to implement the resolution. One year after this, Pakistan National Assembly also took note of the resolution and passed it on their behalf as well. The National Assembly resolution declared Ahmadis as non-Muslim.

The present resolution, which has been presented in the Azad Kashmir Assembly, says that since Pakistan National Assembly declared Ahmadis as non-Muslim, the Ahmadis should be banned from preaching their faith and using Islamic terminology in Azad Kashmir as well and should be declared as non-Muslim. The Azad Kashmir Assembly has now unanimously passed the resolution. Legislation will now follow to implement the same laws in Azad Kashmir as are being implemented in Pakistan. The resolution presented by Syed Ali Raza was as follows:

‘According to the 3rd Provisional Act of 1974 of the Independent Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Azad Kashmir is a Muslim state, so it is under obligation to make its laws in light of the Holy Quran and the Sunnah. In sub-section (3) of Section (2), which was made part of the Azad Kashmir law through an amended act in 1976, clearly states that if a person does not believe in the finality of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, or claims to be a prophet after the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, or claims to be a religious reformer, or intends to amend the laws prescribed by Islam, or simply expresses an opinion to do so, or is a follower of any such sect, such a person shall not be considered a Muslim in light of this law, as was decided by the organization of the Muslim countries in their 140th meeting held on 6-10 April, 1974, in Mecca. Pakistan, to which the land of Azad Jammu Kashmir is geographically connected, has already made its standpoint clear regarding the Qadiani and Lahore Group through the law which was notified through the National Assembly Secretariat on 7 September 1974. It was based on this that two sub-clauses – clause a & b – were added to the article 260 of the 1973constitution of Pakistan. A number of other laws were also formulated on the basis of these clauses and many amendments were made to the Pakistan constitution. The same laws were included in the penal code of Pakistan and the State of Azad Kashmir as well; however effective measures are still to be taken to implement these laws in Azad Kashmir. This august house (Azad Kashmir Assembly), therefore, will have to make some proper arrangements in this regard. This august house supports the decision which declares (the Qadiani or Lahore group or any other faith group for that matter) for not believing the finality of the prophethood of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, to be non-Muslim, as this has also been pronounced by the 1974 act of Pakistan. However, it would be appropriate if the house also declares any such person to be an apostate who is a follower of the any of the aforesaid sects. The house should also make sure that whatever legal action is required to be taken against such people, it must be taken accordingly.

B) The house also recommends registering as non-Muslim all the Mirzais (Qadiani and Lahore groups) who are living and have the citizenship of Azad Jammu & Kashmir. The record of these people should also be maintained in light of National Registration Act of 1973 after due amendments have been made to this law. Their ID cards should also properly show them to be non-Muslim, so that they can be recognized and proper action can be taken against them in case they give out wrong information about themselves. In other words, if they portray themselves as Muslim while they are non-Muslim, they can be held under the law.

C) This house also recommends a complete ban in the
State of Azad Kashmir on all such un-Islamic activities of the Mirzais which are against the Khatm-e-Nubuwwat creed. The Mirzais should be banned from calling their place of worship mosque or write the word ‘mosque’ on their buildings or reciting Azan (the call to Prayer). The administration should be told to keep a strict watch over the activities and movement of and propagation of their faith by the Qadiani missionaries. Each police station should be directed to keep a strict watch over their activities and preaching, so that they are not able to secretly deceive the simple-minded Muslims. The Anti-Islamic Activities of Qadiani Group, Lahore Group and Ahmadis (Prohibition and Punishment) Ordinance 1984 should be implemented in the State of Jammu & Kashmir perfectly with all its amendments and with the true spirit. Moreover, if some more laws are to be enacted against these people, the house should be able to freely enact them. However, no law in their favor can be made until the Azad Jammu & Kashmir Assembly endorses it through proper law-making.

D) This house condemns in the strongest terms the acts of blasphemy on the social media and conspiracies of the anti-Islam forces. The actions which have been taken by the government of Pakistan and its judiciary in connection with the blasphemous activities on the social media and the instruction which have been issued by the government in this regard should be implemented in the Jammu & Kashmir as well in the same manner and effectively.