## PERFIDY OF THE SON-IN-LAW

* OCT 13 2017   BY NEWSWEEK PAKISTAN
* **WHAT WAS MUHAMMAD SAFDAR AWAN’S MOTIVATION FOR ATTACKING THE PERSECUTED AHMADI COMMUNITY?**

On Oct. 10, Pakistan played witness to a curious theater of the absurd. Former military captain Muhammad Safdar Awan of the ruling PMLN attacked Pakistan’s persecuted Ahmadi community in Parliament, ostensibly to further the debate over a Khatm-e-Nabuwwat reference in the Election Bill 2017. The son-in-law of ousted premier Nawaz Sharif, who has faced the wrath of the clergy for his pro-minority statements, Safdar’s rhetoric stunned the House, with observers interpreting the outburst as a sign of a growing rift within the Sharif clan. Interior Minister Ahsan Iqbal’s condemnation—two days later—on Twitter appeared to bolster this view.

Safdar’s charges were extravagant, some appearing to directly target his father-in-law and leader of the PMLN. During his tirade, he slammed a decision to rename the Quaid-e-Azam University’s Physics Center after “Ahmadi” Nobel Prizewinner Dr. Abdus Salam—despite his father-in-law approving it last year against the Council of Islamic Ideology’s objections. He also railed against the presumed appointment of Ahmadis in civil and military jobs, accusing the entire community of being disloyal Pakistanis. Not satisfied with merely attacking the marginalized, Safdar exited Parliament shouting slogans in favor of Mumtaz Qadri, the police commando who was hanged in 2016 for assassinating then-Punjab governor Salmaan Taseer.

Was it a moron’s defense against the charges of corruption he faces before NAB? Or was it a dumb attempt to separate himself from a “criminal” family he believes will soon be behind bars? Perhaps even he doesn’t know.

Safdar has long been a liability for the PMLN due to his—increasingly apparent—low IQ and tendency to deviate from party policy and fly off the handle. His party membership was even briefly suspended in 2012 after he caused rifts in the party’s Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa leadership.

How will Nawaz Sharif react to his latest outburst? And how will Safdar’s wife, Maryam Nawaz, accept this act of stabbing her father in the back if she doesn’t already despise her husband for being such an ass? For troubled Maryam, it might finally be time to make one of the most important decisions of her life

<http://newsweekpakistan.com/perfidy-of-the-son-in-law/>

##  [PM Abbasi distances himself from Safdar’s tirade](https://www.dawn.com/news/1363480/pm-abbasi-distances-himself-from-safdars-tirade)

[k](https://www.dawn.com/authors/1405/monitoring-desk)October 13, 2017

KARACHI: Terming the anti-Ahmadi speech by Nawaz Sharif’s son-in-law “irresponsible”, Prime Mini­ster Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on Thursday said that an explanation would be sought from retired Capt Mohammad Safdar over his remarks in the National Assembly.

In an interview with Meher Abbasi on the DawnNews programme News Eye, PM Abbasi said that neither he nor former prime minister Nawaz Sharif agreed with Capt Safdar’s views about the Ahmadi community.

In a charged speech on Tuesday, Mr Sharif’s son-in-law had used the floor of the lower house to attack the Ahmadi community, calling for a ban on their induction into government and military service.

Defending his cabinet members, PM Abbasi said that the cases against him had not affected Ishaq Dar’s performance in the least, adding that the latter would not resign from his post.

When asked why the PML-N did not ask Hassan and Hussain Nawaz to return and face the cases against them, the prime minister said that the two were independent to make their own decisions. But if push comes to shove, the government could write to Interpol to seek their custody, he said.

Published in Dawn, October 13th, 2017

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1363480/pm-abbasi-distances-himself-from-safdars-tirade>

**[PTI condemns PML-N’s alleged pro-Ahmadi stance](https://tribune.com.pk/story/1529775/pti-condemns-pml-ns-alleged-pro-ahmadi-stance/)**

By [Shahabullah Yousafzai](https://tribune.com.pk/author/6560/shahabullah-yousafzai/)

Published: October 13, 2017

PESHAWAR: Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Information Minister Shah Farman said on Thursday the main aim of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is to protect Pakistan’s physical, ideological and religious borders.

Farman condemned the PML-N Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah for calling Ahmadis his brothers.

While addressing a joint press conference in Peshawar, Farman said that PML-N leadership labelled PTI as agents of the Jewish lobby, while their own provincial minister has called Ahmadi community as Muslim.

Not only from religious point of view but also by an act of parliament, these people had been declared non-Muslims by the popularly elected assembly in 1973 under Zulfikar Ali Bhutto after prolonged debates that brought forth the true face of the Ahmadi thought before the public representatives, he said.

“Sanaullah has violated the 1973 Constitution, which has declared Ahmadi community as non-Muslims,” Farman said.

JUI-F and PML-N  knew that by constitution the Ahmadi has been termed as non-Muslims, so why they are hurting the majority for the pleasure of minority in the country, said the provincial information minister.

“We are against PML-N designs for amending the law of the country to facilitate those who are barred by the law of the land from taking part in elections and holding public office,” the information minister said.

PTI would oppose any such amendment on every forum of the country, Farman said.

The K-P information said that PM’s adviser Engr Ameer Muqam was using his office for influencing the NA-4 by-elections, which was pre-poll rigging. Muqam was using funds and federal resources for gaining desired results in the upcoming by-polls, Farman added.

He said that election commission should take notice of Muqam’s presence in public gathering for supporting his candidate and also taking part in party meeting PML-N K-P chapter.

**Nazaryati support**

The Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Nazaryati (JUI-N) has put its weight behind PTI. Addressing the press conference, JUI-N K-P Ameer Mufti Zubair Albadi announced their party support for PTI candidate in the NA-4. “We appreciate the PTI efforts for including Quranic verses in the curriculum of the province for the first time in the history of this country,” he said.

PTI and JUI-N were on same page over the issues of corruption, anti-Ahmadi movement, protecting Pakistan’s ideological, religious borders of this country, “that is why we are supporting their candidate in the up-coming by-election,” Albadi said.

*Published in The Express Tribune, October 13th, 2017.*

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1529775/pti-condemns-pml-ns-alleged-pro-ahmadi-stance/>

**PML-N disowns Safdar’s tirade against Ahmadis**

**\* Abbasi says Nawaz's son-in-law should stay away from statements which create unrest in society \* Rejects notion that remarks fall in category of 'hate speech'**

13-Oct-17 by [agencies](http://dailytimes.com.pk/search/test/%C2%A0/7/)

**ISLAMABAD:** Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on Thursday disowned the statements made on the floor of the National Assembly by Nawaz Sharif’s son-in-law Captain (r) Muhammad Safdar, when he launched into a virulent tirade against Pakistan’s persecuted Ahmadi community.

Calling the Ahmadis, Qadiyanis and Lahoris the enemies of the nation, Safdar had said that the “enemies of the finality of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)” should not be inducted in the armed forces and key posts. During his speech, he had also called for reversing the name of ‘Professor Abdus Salam Centre for Physics’ to its original name.

“Neither I nor Mian sahab (Nawaz) or the party is responsible for his views,” Abbasi said while talking to a private news channel, adding, “He (Safdar) should not have said what he said. No one in the party would agree with him.”

“Being a parliamentary leader I will take up this issue with him,” the premier maintained. Abbasi, however, rejected the notion that Capt (r) Safdar’s remarks fell into the category of hate speech. “What he (Safdar) said was apparently in the flow of emotions.”

“We should stay away from such statements, which create unrest in society,” said Abbasi, while agreeing that being a son-in-law of Nawaz Sharif he should have behaved more responsibly.

The prime minister also said that people of Pakistan had rejected the way in which former premier Nawaz Sharif was ousted by the Supreme Court.

“Democracy would flourish but it takes time,” he said. He, however, avoided agreeing that Sharif’s ouster was a danger to democracy.

“Let history decide on the decision of the ouster of [Nawaz] Sharif,” he said.

Abbasi said he was carrying forward the policy of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) in accordance with the mandate given to him.

Meanwhile, the premier chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Energy, which reviewed the progress of the transmission line project for Port Qasim, coal-fired power plants, Neelum-Jhelum project, hydel power projects, Trabela-IV and Golen Gol Hydel Power Project.

The National Transmission and Despatch Company (NTDC) managing director informed the meeting that work on all transmission lines had been expedited. "Transmission line to evacuate power from Port Qasim power plant would be completed ahead of the scheduled date of October 31, 2017. Similarly, transmission lines for Neelum-Jhelum and Tarbela-IV would also be completed before the projects start producing electricity. For Golen Gol HPP, 13MW electricity would be made available by December 2017. Moreover, in order to provide electricity to all the valleys in Chitral, two projects worth Rs 5.1 billion have been prepared and PC-1s are under process in the Planning Division."

The prime minister directed the Ministry of Power and PESCO to expedite approval of PC-1 so that all villages in Chitral could be electrified as soon as possible.

The meeting was informed that the government of Iran was interested in providing 100MW electricity in addition to the existing arrangement for 100MW, which is renewed annually. For the additional 100MW, transmission line and grid station had to be constructed to meet immediate needs of Makran division, especially the Gwadar Port and industrial area, it was informed.

The CCE approved the proposal and directed the Ministry of Power to make immediate arrangements for the purchase of additional electricity from Iran and to complete the spadework expeditiously. The prime minister also directed the Ministry of Power to expedite transmission line projects for connecting Makran division to the national grid on a priority basis.

The meeting was informed that as per the latest projections, Pakistan would have surplus power starting in the year 2017-18. This surplus power would be further augmented during the subsequent years with the addition of new capacity from the Thar coal as well as upcoming hydel projects.

*Published in Daily Times, October 13th 2017.*

<http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/13-Oct-17/pml-n-disowns-safdars-tirade-against-ahmadis>

**Confront the anti-minority mindset**

**The Ahmadi community specifically and other minorities generally have been troubled by the hateful remarks of one of the leading members of the ruling party**

13-Oct-17 by [Kaleem Dean](http://dailytimes.com.pk/search/test/%C2%A0/821/)

I was eager to express my thoughts over the brutal killing of a 16-year-old Christian man, Arslan Mushtaq at the hands of Punjab police in Sheikhupura but was compelled to write on a different topic when, after the dramatic arrest and release from the NAB court, Caption (retd) Safdar made a speech against the Ahmadi community.

The Ahmadi community specifically and other minorities generally have been troubled by the hateful remarks of one of the leading members of the ruling party. In limited zones, the narrative may work, but in the 21st century Pakistan, these dogmas will bring more serious harms to the national security as well as generate international criticism. Safdar’s rhetoric will strengthen the dodgy narrative that has already erected barbed wires of social difference among both the majority and minority communities living in Pakistan. For the record, during the reign of PML-N, minorities worship places, their settlements and institutions were targeted the most.

Comments from the parliamentarian against minorities were a clear representation of a mindset, working against the ideology of Pakistan which was based on respect for different faiths and religions. The role of minorities in the formation of Pakistan has been blotched from the history of the movement so to claim the rightful heir of the state. These fanatic movements were against the birth of Pakistan and until today their agenda remains the same. The back-seaters who worked against the creation of Pakistan are now contending to drive the nation with their traditional rod of theocracy. For refreshing memories, the founder of Pakistan had warm relations with Ahmadis, Christians, Parsis, Sikhs, and Hindus living in the newly born state. Major Shaukat Hayat Khan in his book, The Nation that lost its soul mentions the Quaid’s intentions to seek prayers and support for the Ahmadi community of the India subcontinent and the community agreed by saying, “where the help is needed, no Ahmadi will stand against any Muslim Leaguer.”

*The back-seaters who worked against the creation of Pakistan are now contending to drive the nation with their traditional rod of theocracy. For refreshing memories, let us recall that the founder of Pakistan had warm relations with Ahmadis, Christians, Parsis, Sikhs and Hindus*

Air Marshal Zafar Chaudhry, the first Chief of Air Staff, was the founding member of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. General Iftikhar Janjua was the only Army General martyred during war duty in 1971. Sir Chaudhry Zafar Ullah Khan was the first Foreign Minister of Pakistan and was a loyal companion of the Quaid-e-Azam. In 1980, Dr Abdus Salam was awarded the Nobel Prize for his contribution towards the theory of electroweak unification in Particle Physics. His services remained unacknowledged in Pakistan, even after he won the Nobel Prize.

He was invited to the Quaid-e-Azam, University Islamabad but was not allowed to enter when Jamat-e-Islami (JI) student and other fanatic political parties started protesting against his arrival in Pakistan. However, approximately, after 40 years, in 2016, Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, the then Prime Minister of Pakistan, dedicated the Physics Department in the Quaid-e-Azam University after his name. His decision was bitterly opposed by Captain Safdar and the like-minded groups. After General Ayub Khan took over as army chief, till 1951, three non-Muslims served as chiefs of Pakistan Army.

Most recently, Major General Asif Ghafoor has categorically acknowledged minorities’ contribution and their loyalty to Pakistan. In the month of September, Maryam Nawaz visited a church to thank the Christian community for their services to their family and the country, but in the end, her political gimmick was rejected by the community. It was St. Anthony’s High School that groomed Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif during his school years. All children of the Sharif family attended St. Mary’s Convent and other Christian institutions. The highly irrational speech of Captain Safdar has hurt minorities’ feelings, therefore, any effort to divide the society into further segmentation would be disastrous. Democracy serves all but with special considerations of the lower and marginalised sections of the society. Unfortunately, the undemocratic forces have overpowered the present-day political system, the root of which could be traced directly from the objective resolution of 1949. Quaid’s Pakistan was not the one with these courses of fanatic socio-political syllabi, but it was to be an enlightened modern Islamic State. It should be realised that a few million minorities are not a security threat, and snubbing them institutionally will never ensure a prosperous Pakistan.

The constitution of Pakistan does not allow them to become Chief Executive office of the county, governor of a province or army chief. They have been awarded 5 per cent job quota, the promise of which has never been fulfilled by the national or the provincial institutions. Numeration of minorities remains static, and the country’s population has reached to 200 million but ethnic minorities’ percentage does not exceed three per cent.

It is about time the social narrative of the country is revisited. Fanaticism, aggression and intolerance are not the postulates of the Islamic ideology. The followers of aggression will generate aggression whereas a new narrative of love thy neighbour will provide a sound foundation to a civilized Pakistan and in the real sense we would achieve Jinnah’s Pakistan.

***The writer can be reached at******kaleem.dean@mail.com***

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<http://dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/13-Oct-17/confront-the-anti-minority-mindset>

## [PM Abbasi distances himself, PML-N from Safdar's tirade against Ahmadi community](https://www.dawn.com/news/1363379/pm-abbasi-distances-himself-pml-n-from-safdars-tirade-against-ahmadi-community)

[Dawn.com](https://www.dawn.com/authors/202/dawn-com)  October 12, 2017

Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on Thursday disowned the [statements made on the floor](https://www.dawn.com/news/1362922) of the National Assembly by Nawaz Sharif’s son-in-law retired Captain Muhammad Safdar, when he launched into a virulent tirade against Pakistan's [persecuted Ahmadi community](https://www.dawn.com/news/711228).

“Neither I nor Mian sahb or the party is responsible for his views”, Abbasi said while talking to DawnNews, adding that “He [Safdar] should not have said what he said. No one in the party would agree with him.”

"Being a parliamentary leader I will take up this issue with him," he maintained.

Abbasi, however, rejected the notion that Capt Safdar's remarks fell into the category of hate speech. "What he [Safdar] said was apparently in the flow of emotions."

“We should stay away from such statements which create unrest in the society,” said Abbasi, while agreeing that being a son-in-law of Nawaz Sharif he should have behaved more responsibly.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1363379>

**[PM to seek 'explanation' from Capt Safdar over tirade against Ahmadiyya community](https://tribune.com.pk/story/1529859/pm-seek-explanation-capt-safdar-tirade-ahmadiyya-community/)**

By [APP](https://tribune.com.pk/author/3869/app/)

Published: October 13, 2017

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi has distanced himself and his party, the PML-N, from the tirade of a ruling party lawmaker against the Ahmadiyya community.

Captain (retd) Muhammad Safdar, a son-in-law of deposed premier Nawaz Sharif, has called for a ban on hiring Ahmadis in the military and the judiciary.

Speaking in the National Assembly earlier this week, Safdar also demanded withdrawal of a decision to name a department of the Quaid-i-Azam University after Nobel laureate Pakistani physicist Prof Dr Abdus Salam.

“These were Safdar’s personal views and the party does not agree with it,” the prime minister said. “Such kind of provocation should be avoided,” he said, adding that being the parliamentary head he would ask Safdar to explain his position on the issue.

**Positive turnaround in economy**

Premier Abbasi also said that the country’s economy had shown a positive turnaround and was fast growing in the face of numerous challenges inherited by it at macroeconomic level in 2013.

The statement about the economy came a day after army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa voiced concerns over ‘sky-high’ debt of the country.

Talking to a private television channel, he said the government was fully focusing on increasing exports and to reduce imports and in that connection it had given incentives to exporters and was interacting with the business community to take their inputs regularly.

 “Pakistan of 2017 is very different from that of 2013,” he added. The country has achieved 6% economic growth as compared to 3.6% during the previous government era, while inflation had been brought down to a single digit.

The prime minister said he had talked about a grand dialogue among the country’s political parties on economic policies, adding that whosoever come into power the economic policies should continue.

Regarding privatisation policy, he said that whenever the government tried to privatise national entities it was made a political issue. “We do not want to create instability in the country.”

Abbasi said privatisation was the only solution of PIA but unfortunately neither the courts nor the provinces and even the political parties did not agree on it. He said there was a need to create political consensus on it, because PIA and Pakistan Steel Mills were the two big entities incurring billions of rupees losses to the national exchequer.

To a question about demand for the finance minister’s resignation, the prime minister said Ishaq Dar was the best finance minister of Pakistan at this time, adding that he did a tremendous job in strengthening of country’s economy.

He brushed aside the impression that any international financial institution had informed the government that they would not deal with Dar. “I am fully satisfied with his performance and he should continue as the finance minister till the court’s judgment.”

To another question regarding return of Hassan Nawaz and Hussain Nawaz, Abbasi said they were independent people and they would make their own decisions about returning to Pakistan.

About the disqualification of Sharif by the Supreme Court in the Panama Papers case, the prime minister said the history would judge the decision.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1529859/pm-seek-explanation-capt-safdar-tirade-ahmadiyya-community/>

**Sanaullah stirs up a hornet’s nest, calls Ahmadis Muslims**

After Capt (retd) Safdar’s recent diatribe against Ahmadis which met with severe criticism by opposition parties and on social media, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) appears to be in a fix again after Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah Thursday made a controversial statement favouring the minority community.

Sanaullah’s statement that “Ahmadis (also) act upon ‘Namaz’ (prayer) and ‘Roza’ (fast); they go to mosques and recite Azan” incited countrywide protests.

The Punjab minister, while talking to a private channel, stirred up a hornet’s nest by calling Ahmadis Muslims.

“Opposition with Ahmadis is over the Khatm-e-Nubuwwat issue,” he said, and added that “according to Ulema, the Ahmadis cannot say their prayers, recite Azan and construct their mosques. But there are several complexities. The matter should be discussed at certain level.”

Rana Sanaullah said that there will be a big reaction if someone says that the Ahmadis should be recruited into the army. “It should not be discussed in detail as it will cause provocation,” he added.

The minister however said that it was the responsibility of the government to protect their lives and property.

SANAULLAH’S CLARIFICATION:

Nevertheless, Rana Sanaullah in a late night clarification said that he never declared “Qadianis” as Muslims. He said this statement had been wrongly attached to him. The minister further said that Captain (r) Safdar during his speech in parliament was correct however his claim that there are also Qadianis in the Army is totally wrong.

PML-Q MOVES RESOLUTION IN PA AGAINST LAW MINISTER: Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) on Thursday moved a resolution in the Punjab Assembly against Law Minister Rana Sanaullah for what it termed a ‘controversial’ statement.

The resolution, which was moved by PML-Q’s parliamentary leader Moonis Elahi, stated that the provincial minister’s attempt to prove Ahmadis as Muslims amounts to treason against the Constitution. “This House expresses grave concern about recent talk on a TV channel about Ahmadis by the Punjab law minister which has greatly hurt the sentiments of entire Muslim Ummah,” the resolution stated.

“This inexcusable statement of Rana Sanaullah would have not only shaken heavens but also hurt the heart of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) without whom we are nothing. Our honour is because of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him),” it said.

The resolution reads that Ahmadis were declared non-Muslims in 1974 constitutionally. “In 1984 through a presidential ordinance, they (Ahmadis) were bounded not to use Islamic teachings whereas in his talk the minister has committed inexcusable crime of treason against the Constitution to prove them as Muslims,” the resolution said.

In view of his statement, the government should immediately call an explanation from the law minister as to how he was declaring deviators from the Khatm-e-Nubawwat as Muslims and what were the heinous motives behind his this statement, the party demanded in the resolution.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2017/10/13/httpswww-pakistantoday-com-pk20171013sanaullah-says-ulema-do-not-consider-ahmadis-non-muslims/>

 **Safdar attempted to target COAS in Ahmedis’ diatribe: Aitzaz**

October 12, 2017, 7:51 pm

Pakistan People’s Party (PPP) senator Aitzaz Ahsan denounced the diatribe of PML-N leader Captain (r) Safdar at Ahmdis and said it was an attempt to target the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa in cover of such incendiary issues.

Talking to media outside the Parliament House, PPP senator said that Capt Safdar apparently pointed out army chief in his speech and it was condemnable.

“Armed forces are rendering numerous sacrifices in defence of Pakistan as Pakistan Army is busy in war against terrorism,” he said.

Aitzaz mentioned that Army Chief was fighting against the enemies of Islam; however, Capt Safdar was assailing him.

On October 10, Captain Safdar, who is former prime minister Nawaz Sharif’s son-in-law, criticised the renaming of Quaid-e-Azam University’s (QAU) physics centre after Professor Dr Abdus Salam, the country’s first Nobel laureate — the grounds for the lawmaker’s objections being the scientist’s Ahmadi faith.

“These people [Ahmadis] are a threat to this country, its constitution and ideology. This situation is heading towards a dangerous point,” said Safdar in his diatribe against the community.

Pakistan was created with an ideology to protect the finality of Prophethood [Khatm-i-Naboowat] so Islam is practiced here, the PML-N leader said.

<http://nation.com.pk/national/12-Oct-2017/safdar-attempted-to-target-coas-in-ahmedis-diatribe-aitzaz>

**Pakistan respects all minorities: Ahsan Iqbal on Capt Safdar’s diatribe**

**LAHORE:** While expressing his displeasure over the recent diatribe by Captain Muhammad Safdar in the National Assembly (NA) in which he launched a verbal attack on the Ahmedi community, Interior Minister Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday reiterated that “Pakistan respects all minorities” and that “it is tragic to see hate speech against minorities in National Assembly”.

While most of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League’s (PML-N) leaders have chosen to stay quiet on this, Ahsan Iqbal took to Twitter to express his opinion on the matter.

He remarked that it is tragic to see hate speech against minorities in National Assembly and that Pakistan respects all minorities.

On Tuesday, Capt Safdar during a National Assembly session, attacked the minority Ahmedi community, terming the members of the Ahmedi faith group a “threat to the country’s sovereignty” and demanded a complete ban on their recruitment in the Pakistan Army, judiciary and other services.

Safdar referred to Dr Salam as “a controversial figure that has been termed an infidel in light of the Constitution”, while demanding for the Nobel Laureate’s name to be delinked from Quaid-i-Azam University’s physics department.

Students and alumni of the QAU in a post on Facebook termed Safdar’s demand “obtuse” and “brainless” and added that they cherish the Nobel laureate’s achievements and are honoured to host the centre at the QAU.

QAU Vice-Chancellor Dr Javed Ashraf said that the renaming of the centre had been approved by Nawaz Sharif in December 2016.

“I feel every Pakistani should honour top intellectuals — regardless of their caste, colour and creed,” Dr Ashraf said. “Every Pakistani should be equally honoured for their achievements.”

Meanwhile, human rights lawyer and activist Asma Jahangir demanded Nawaz Sharif take notice of Capt Safdar’s tirade against Pakistan’s persecuted Ahmadiyya community and urged all the political parties to condemn the speech.

Pakistan People’s Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, in a tweet on Wednesday, condemned the speech.

“The bigotry, hatred and extremism on display in the National Assembly yesterday goes to show that the Nawaz league has been mainstreaming terror well before Milli Muslim League. No place for this mindset in our society,” Bilawal tweeted.

The general public also reacted strongly to the speech through various social media platforms and called for Safdar’s arrest.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2017/10/12/pakistan-respects-all-minorities-ahsan-iqbal-on-capt-safdars-diatribe/>

**LHCBA imposes life-long ban on Rana Sanaullah for allegedly favoring Ahmadies**

October 13, 2017, 3:50 pm

Lahore High Court Bar Association has banned the entry of Provincial Law Minister Rana Sanaullah for allegedly favoring Ahmadies today.

Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah Khan today said that Ahmedi community should stop declaring themselves as Muslims, if they want to be treated in equal manner as other religious minority groups in Pakistan.

While addressing a press conference today Sanaullah said, “I said that Ahmedis pretend to be Muslims as they quote Quranic verses and perform religious rituals just like us in a bid to propagate their faith. But let me state it very clearly that according to Islam and Pakistan’s constitution, those who do not believe in Khatam-e-Nabuwwat (finality of Prophethood) are not Muslims.”

He also said that all other minority communities in Pakistan are enjoying equal status as citizens of the country. Ahmedis will have equal rights to if they admit to the fact that they are not Muslims and are a religious minority”.

“It is our duty to protect minorities of the country but the Ahmedis will first have to stop claiming to be Muslims. There is no other way around it,” he said.

Secretary Amir Saeed Rawn told media that a life long ban has been imposed on Rana Sanaullah.

<http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Oct-2017/ahmadis-should-stop-declaring-themselves-as-muslims-rana-sanaullah>