

Minority rights: ‘Lawlessness causing religious intolerance, sectarian violence’

By [Our Correspondent](#)

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KARACHI: Hate speech and lawlessness are the main reason why there is an increase in sectarian violence in Pakistan, claimed Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) secretary general IA Rehman on Tuesday.

He said this while addressing a meeting of the HRCP expert group on ‘Communities vulnerable because of their belief.’ The meeting focused on the various aspects of sectarian strife in the country.

Rehman said that the government has not done anything important to resolve these issues, except for making laws that are not being implemented. He said that the state makes the laws, but they are misused and people are implicated in false cases.

Referring to the civil society’s role, he said whenever any such incident takes place, the civil society protests but many of them are reluctant to speaking out.

A representative of the Christian community said they face many issues but they also have proper networking among all the representatives of every community. “Best solution is to talk, resolve and finish any misunderstanding that starts developing.”

Lawyer Syed Ali Ahmed Tariq claimed that in the last few years, 250 Ahmadi doctors have been killed in Pakistan, out of which 28 were from Karachi. He believes that the word ‘minority’ should be erased from the minds of the people, in order to give equal rights to everyone. “We are only 3.5% of the total minorities in Pakistan, why does the majority fear us,” asked a representative of the Zikri community, Javed Ghufuran. He was of the view that no action is taken against those who have negative attitude towards the minorities. “People are only killing Shias because of their religion,” claimed

Alia Naqvi, whose husband was a publisher and was killed in 2009. Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research communication manager Abida Ali said that if the state is aware about the people who spread hate speech, then why don't they ban them.

Piler executive director Karamat Ali said that in the past few years, considerable migrations have taken place on the basis of caste, ethnicity and sect. "State has a big role in [handling] all these issues and so do the political parties."

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<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1133036/minority-rights-lawlessness-causing-religious-intolerance-sectarian-violence/>

Five Ahmadi family members arrested over terrorism charges in Badin

HANIF SAMOON — PUBLISHED 30 -06-2016

BADIN: Local police booked and arrested five members of an Ahmadi family in Badin over charges of allegedly planning an act of terrorism, it has been learnt.

SSP Badin Abdul Qayum Pitafi, while talking to *Dawn* on Thursday, claimed that an ugly terror bid was foiled when a bomb pre-maturely exploded inside a house in Qaidabad locality of Badin city late Wednesday night.

Following the blast, police raided the house and recovered explosives and also arrested five family members.

Pitafi said that a young boy was injured in explosions and received burn wounds. Police has reportedly shifted the boy to an undisclosed location for interrogation where he is also being treated for his wounds.

“It is a serious matter that a bomb was recovered from the district and the matter is being thoroughly investigated,” Pitafi added.

Meanwhile, an uncle of the boy, while talking to *Dawn* refuted the claims made by police and said his nephew got injured “when some unidentified persons threw an explosive device on the roof where he was sitting”.

The victim’s uncle alleged that Badin police, instead of shifting the seriously injured boy to hospital for treatment, have kept him others on an undisclosed location.

"We informed the police soon after the incident, but they took away the injured boy and also arrested four other family members including the boy’s father from Islamkot town of Thar."

"We are Ahmadis, therefore we are being implicated in this false case which is part of a deep-rooted conspiracy. We feel very insecure here," claimed the boy’s uncle.

He said this is not the first time that their family was being targeted and that they have faced such hardships before as well.

SHO Model Police Station Badin Mohammad Ibrahim Jatoi informed *Dawn* that an FIR has been registered against the suspects under Section 6/7 of the ATA and Explosives Act and investigations are underway.

"The matter is so serious and complicated therefore we are investigating it from different angles as some elements of the banned organisations are likely to be involved in this act."

Jatoi, however, rejected the claims of injured boy's uncle and said that during the raids police recovered the explosive device, a detonator and other suspicious devices from the house.

"We have ample proof against them and the culprits would be dealt according to the law."

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1268212>