



INCIDENT REPORT PAKISTAN

- **Ahmadi place of worship in Faisalabad, Pakistan attacked by mob in**
- **5 Ahmadis injured**

On 23 August 2018 an Ahmadi place of worship in GhaseetPura, Faisalabad, Pakistan was attacked. The basis of the attack seems to be a minor personal dispute between two parties which escalated into a full blown attack on the Ahmadi place of worship by a mob consisting of around 300 to 400 people including a number who were armed. The place of worship was set out fire, gun shots were fired which resulted in 5 Ahmadis being injured.

The attack began after the Maghrib Prayer (after sunset), when a group of men armed started firing at the Ahmadi place of worship. Five Ahmadis were injured by gun shots.

From information the IHRC has received, it appears extremist clerics took advantage of the minor dispute between two parties by inflaming anti-Ahmadi sentiments against the local Ahmadi community and gathered together a mob of 300 to 400 people. This resulted in the mob vandalising the main prayer hall and setting on fire things that were in the place of worship. An Ahmadi home net to the place of worship also suffered damage.

Further details will be provided in due course.

Ahmadis are the most persecuted religious group in Pakistan, with extremists and religious hardliners labelling them heretics, while draconian Pakistani laws ban them from not only calling themselves Muslims or using Islamic symbols but for doing anything which suggests they may pose as Muslims.



The new Pakistani Government needs to live up to its rhetoric and do everything possible to ensure the safety and security of its citizens, particularly Ahmadis who are seen as a soft target. Otherwise it will be the same old Pakistan and the status quo will continue.

Further, the International Community is urged to finally ensure that not only that the plight of Ahmadis in Pakistan is given the attention it needs but more importantly concerted action is taken to secure the basic human rights of Ahmadis which for too long have been denied to Ahmadis in Pakistan.

24 August 2018

END