

## **Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan News Report    March 2012**

### **President of local Ahmadi community in Rabwah tortured to death by the Punjab Police**

**Rabwah; March 30, 2012:** The following press release was issued by the Ahmadiyya central office in Rabwah:

***Abdul Quddoos, school teacher dies of police torture. Strong legal action demanded against police officials responsible for this murder. Spokesman Jamaat Ahmadiyya***

*Chenab Nagar (Rabwah) PR: School teacher Abdul Quddoos died of torture at the hands of savage police officials of Police Station, Chenab Nagar. As per reports, the police detained Master (teacher) Abdul Quddoos as suspect in the murder of Ahmad Yusuf, a stamp-papers vendor of Nusrat Abad, Rabwah. The police subjected him to intense inhuman torture to forcibly derive from him an admission of complicity in that murder. After he was fatally injured, the police released him after obtaining a written statement from his relatives under threats. He was losing blood fast as a result of the torture. The doctors in the local hospital made frantic efforts to save his life. The victim, however, succumbed to his injuries on Friday, March 30, 2012.*

*The spokesman of the Ahmadiyya Community expressed deep grief and concern over the inconsolable death of Master Abdul Quddoos and termed the torture grossly inhuman. He stated that the murder of Mr. Yusuf must be investigated and the guilty must be punished, however 'who has authorized the police to torture people to death in the course of investigation?'*

*According to him, the antagonists of the Ahmadiyya Community wanted to implicate some leaders of the community in the murder of Ahmad Yusuf. The arrest of Master Abdul Quddoos, president of the Ahmadiyya community of Nusrat Abad, Rabwah, and his torture to obtain a forced admission of involvement from him was an act to that end. "Officials who indulged in unlawful torture should be punished as per law," the spokesman said. He demanded that a high level commission be set up and the so-called law-enforcement officials involved in the murder of an innocent man should be severely punished for violation of the law.*

**Press Release in London.** The Press Secretary Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat International issued a press release two days later in London on this incident and added:

***Whilst in custody, Mr. Master Abdul Quddoos Ahmad was hung upside down from his ankles for long periods. Furthermore, whilst laid supine, an extremely heavy wooden roller, similar to those used to flatten cricket pitches, was rolled all over his body, as attendants stood at each side of him making sure he could not move. Such inhumane and merciless treatment led to multiple organ failure and crushed his muscles. These are just a few examples of the torture inflicted.***

**The daily Express Tribune reported the incident on March 21, 2012, (excerpts):**

*"When his body could not take further torture, his relatives were blackmailed and he was released. He was admitted to a local hospital where doctors tried to save his life, but Quddoos died due to several injuries and excessive loss of blood," Abdul Quddoos's brother in law Imtiaz Ahmad said.*

*"He (the SHO), however, maintains that the accused was picked up on March 24 and was released two days later as the police was convinced of his innocence. Hussain (the SHO) says a fatal disease could be the possible cause of death."*

**Vernacular print media:** The incident was so gruesome that even the vernacular newspapers that are normally unsympathetic to the Ahmadiyya issues took notice and gave multi-column coverage to the story. Headlines are translated below:

- Chenab Nagar:** **School teacher dies of Police torture. Citizens' strong protest**  
*The daily Nawa-e-Waqt, Lahore; April 1, 2012*
- Chenab Nagar:** **Death of Teacher Abdul Quddoos. The entire area in mourning.**  
*The daily Pakistan, Lahore; April 1, 2012*
- Chenab Nagar:** **Death of school teacher due police torture. Business centers close.**  
*The Daily Express, Faisalaad; April 1, 2012*
- Chiniot:** **School teacher's death due alleged police torture. Teachers' Union announces 3 days' mourning.**  
*The daily Awaz, Lahore; April 1, 2012*
- Chenab Nagar:** **School teacher, the sole supporter of his family, dies of police torture.**  
*The daily Musawat, Lahore; April 1, 2012*

**Some important facts of this case:**

- Mr. Abdul Quddoos was approximately 43 years old. He was highly respected in his neighborhood and was known as a good teacher.
- He has left behind his wife and four children, the eldest is 14.
- Shujaat Malhi, a police inspector and former SHO in Rabwah, was transferred away from here sometimes ago for non-professional conduct. He was transferred back very recently to Rabwah as an investigating inspector. Immediately on arrival, he shifted Mr. Abdul Quddoos to a distant undisclosed location where he and sub-inspector Manazer Ali subjected Mr. Quddoos to fatal torture.
- Mr. Quddoos told his friends on release that the investigating team was initially overseen by some senior officials; they required him to implicate in writing the senior leadership of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan of involvement in the murder of Ahmad Yusuf. Mr. Quddoos refused to be a party to this fabrication. They proceeded then with torture.
- Once admitted in the local hospital, the doctors found that his kidney and lungs had been severely damaged; he was losing excessive blood through vomiting and stool and sank into unconsciousness repeatedly.
- His funeral was attended by approximately 4000 men. Subsequently, thousands more including women visited his family and home to offer condolences.

**The Latest:** Till the filing of this report in the monthly Newsreport, the police officials against whom an FIR has been registered have not been arrested by the authorities.

**Comment:** This tragic incident highlights the following few facts about the present-day governance and society in Pakistan that deserves serious consideration of the democratic leadership and the intellectual torch-bearers of the land:

- The state has conveyed to its functionaries that Ahmadis are a fair game and their persecution will be amply acceptable.
- The federal government, despite its verbal support to minorities has virtually given a *laissez faire* license to the provincial government in the Punjab.
- The Punjab Government run by the PML (N) led by Sharif Brothers follows an overt anti-Ahmadiyya policy to the extent that its intentions and stance are not lost on even the lower echelons of the administration and police.
- The Punjab Government's policy of solidarity with religious extremists is manifested unabashedly in District Chiniot (of which Rabwah is part) by the fact that mulla Ilyas Chinioti, the local MPA was accepted with open arms in the PML (N) after the

elections. This liaison is a constant source of hardship for the Ahmadiyya population here.

- The Punjab Police can illegally detain citizens for weeks although the law requires them to produce the detainee before a magistrate by the next day.
- The police detain citizens without bringing their detention on records and move them to other locations without making appropriate entry in records.
- They detain people without acquiring even minimal credible evidence.
- They torture them to sign admission-of-guilt papers.
- They torture them to death with techniques that leave no external signs but damage their internal vitals beyond recovery.
- They do not care to take their casualty to a hospital for treatment or even first-aid to protect his life or secure him against permanent injury.
- They hand over their victims to relatives after forcing them to sign certification designed by the police.
- Rather than making professional investigation they opt to torture a detainee to obtain from him confessions about involvement of other fake or real accomplices.
- The higher police hierarchy leaves it to the lower echelons to commit such horrors, or they remain blissfully ignorant of what goes on in police stations.
- Police officials, even if charged in an FIR, are provided protection by their superiors and are not arrested for their *prima-facie* crimes as per law applicable to all accused.
- There is apparently little departmental accountability of police officials, who even if found guilty of misconduct or unprofessional behavior get only transferred; they are transferred back to the same location on some excuse.
- In case the police officials, obviously guilty of torture and murder in this case, are not punished, that will substantiate the allegation that some seniors were involved in this conspiracy – be they political, religious, administrative or police office-holders.
- The unprofessional conduct and character of police officials calls for a major change in the administrative policy of this very important branch of administration to protect citizens from its rapacious conduct and turn it into a force that serves the society as expected in civilized countries.

### **Another Ahmadi murdered for his faith**

**Nawab Shah, Sindh; March 7, 2012:** Mr. Maqsood Ahmad, a visiting salesman from Rabwah, was shot dead in Nawab Shah openly in the main market. He hailed originally from Krundi, Sindh. These days he was an agent of the Curative Medicine Company and was on his regular monthly tour of Sindh. He was shot by two unknown motorcyclists, and he died on the spot. He had received threats to his life a few months ago. Extremists also conveyed threats to one of the Hindu doctors whom Mr. Maqsood supplied medicines. “If this Mirzai (Ahmadi) comes to you again, we’ll kill him and you too”, they told him.

He is survived by a wife, three sons and two daughters.

An FIR has been registered in the police station but no arrests have been made so far. This is the second killing of Ahmadis in Nawab Shah within ten days.

Mr. Maqsood’s grandfather joined the Ahmadiyya Community in 1934. Later he was martyred in 1966 in Krundi, an event to which young Maqsood Ahmad was a witness. Mr. Ahmed met the same fate 46 years later in Sindh. By all accounts he was a very good man who was friendly and charitable.

## **Brutish curbs on freedom of worship – in Rawalpindi**

**Rawalpindi; March 30, 2012:** The agitation by extremist elements against Ahmadis' worship in their Satellite Town mosque started some months ago had picked up ugly momentum for lack of any effective resistance from the authorities. These developments have been reported in recent monthly reports. An up-date is given below.

Complying with the demands of locals, the police barred Ahmadis from entering this place of worship for the Friday congregation of March 2, 2012. Only a few who were already inside and those present on duty could join the prayers.

The police tightened the noose further on the following Fridays. Their contingent arrives as early as 9 a.m. (while the prayers start at 1 p.m.) and stop Ahmadis coming to the Ahmadiyya complex where in addition to the space of worship, various offices are also located. The missionary's residence is also provided there. The police stopped even his school-going children from entering the building after the school hours. The boy had to wait for hours after the time of Friday prayers before he could return home.

It is a shameful compliance to the will of the mulla, by the authorities who are duty bound to uphold human rights of citizens and their freedom of religion and worship.

## **An Ahmadi youth kidnapped**

**Kotri, Sindh; March 18, 2012:** Mr. Qaiser Ahmad S/O Mr. Shahbaz Ahmad was kidnapped on March 18, 2012 from Kotri, district Hyderabad. The kidnappers demanded one million rupees for his release. He was kept in the Hub area of Baluchistan. The money was paid, and Mr. Ahmad was released on March 25, 2012.

## **Situation is severe in Nawab Shah, Sindh**

**Nawab Shah, Sindh; March, 2012:** Anti-Ahmadiyya activism in Nawab Shah is at peak. The recent murders of two Ahmadis in Nawab Shah are the clear evidence of the plight of the persecution of helpless Ahmadiyya community here. It is learnt that Sipah Sahaba, JUI and Khatme Nabuwat factions are behind this campaign. A few other major incidents are mentioned below:

1. Radde Qadianiat (rebuttal of Ahmadiyyat) course was held in Masjid Kabeer on Station Road. This is a centre of Deobandi mullas and it serves as the district headquarters of Khatme Nabuwat organization. As a result partial social and business boycott of Ahmadis is in place.
2. An anti-Ahmadiyya conference was held by the Khatme Nabuwat faction in the same mosque on March 16, 2012. This conference was addressed by Maulvi Abdul Majeed of Multan (the Central Amir of Khatme Nabuwat), Abdul Ghafoor Qasmi, Maulvi Ijaza Mustafa (Amir Khatme Nabuwat of Karachi chapter) and Senator Khalid Somro (JUI). The speeches as usual were hateful and the people were agitated against Ahmadis.
3. Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community wrote, "**Now you are not safe, O' blasphemer of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>**" with a chalk on the outer wall of the residence of Mr. Muhammad Akram Athwal, the president of Ahmadiyya community Sakrand, district Nawab Shah. The same warning was written on the house of his brother, Mr. Azam. The threats have greatly disturbed the two families.
4. Rana Muhammad Ashfaq, the local president of Ahmadiyya community Kot Qazi, district Nawab Shah was buying some fruit in the market when someone said in a loud voice pointing at him, "**He must be dealt with firmly.**" Mr Ashfaq decided to leave the place.

5. Mr. Muhammad Aslam Bhatti is an Ahmadi doctor in Bandi, district Nawab Shah. He received a threatening phone call on March 16, 2012 in which the caller laughed and said, "Sleep, your days are over; this is your last day." The next day he received an SMS: "YOU ARE FINISH" (sic).  
The Administration has been kept informed of all such incidents.

### **Severe Hostility in District Narowal**

**Mahloke, district Narowal; March 2012:** The local mulla has gone rabid in his hostility of the Ahmadiyya community in Mahloke, district Narowal. He held a conference in the local mosque in which the attendance was high. He provoked the participants against the Ahmadiyya community and urged them to kill Ahmadis and implement a strict social boycott against them. He has succeeded in activating even women who gathered in front of the house of an Ahmadi woman, the head of local Ahmadiyya women chapter. They called her 'infidel' and told her to come out to face them. They beat up a local non-Ahmadi woman who used to come to her house. Even children harassed her. One of her relatives was stopped by these urchins who threatened him with death if he were found on that street again.

This situation is indeed very grave for Ahmadis here.

### **Assault on an Ahmadi**

**Shahdampur, Sanghar; March 9, 2012:** An Ahmadi, Mr. Basharat Ahmad was riding to his home when he was pursued by two motorcyclists. They were approximately 22 years old. They asked him, who he was? He replied that he was a Punjabi, Arian, (which he was, but he hid his Ahmadi identity). The intruders left but intercepted him again and told him that he was liar, he was Qadiani. They beat him up. Although he was roughed up severely, no long term injury occurred and his life was saved.

### **Anti-Ahmadiyya activism on the rise in the capital of the Punjab**

**Mosques targeted:** Encouraged by their success in the twin attack of May 28, 2010, the extremists seem to plan other attacks in future. The evidence:

1. Eight mullas came to the Ahmadiyya mosque in Sultan Pura, Lahore on March 10, 2012 at the time of evening prayers. They stayed in front of the mosque for some time and talked on a mobile phone about the mosque. An Ahmadi youth on duty stood near them and overheard their conversation.
2. A suspicious-looking car passed by the Ahmadiyya mosque in Islam Pura, Lahore on March 2, 2012 at the time of Friday prayers. A mulla was sitting on the front seat wearing a white turban; he was accompanied by two others. The car entered a house a few yards away from the mosque and took one man on board from there. They passed by the mosque again, slowed down in front of the mosque, reccyed it, and then picked up speed to depart. The police on duty also noted the movements of the suspect vehicle; however they did not stop the car to question the occupants as to their business.
3. Two youth on a motorcycle arrived in front of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Kot Lakhpat after the evening prayers on March 8, 2012. They stayed there for some time, reccyed the mosque and remained busy on talking over a mobile phone. Thereafter they left the scene. They were in their twenties and looked suspicious.

The management of the mosque went into a higher state of defensive readiness.

**A raid in Mustafa Town:** On March 5, 2012 approximately 20 mullas gathered in front of the house of Mr. Muhammad Ishaq at about 9 a.m. They banged at the door, pelted stones

inside the house and tried to break down the main gate. Mr. Ishaq informed the police. They arrived in time and asked the intruders the purpose of their visit. They told the police that they had come to remove the decoration frame on which *Ayatul Kursi* (A verse of the Holy Quran) was displayed. The police rebuked the miscreants and told them to desist from such activity.

The local colony administration also paid a visit to Mr. Ishaque. The president of the administration supported Mr. Ishaq and advised him to hand over the frame of *Ayaul Kursi* to him to defuse the situation. Mr. Ishaque complied. The removal of the Quranic verse calmed down the mullas – for the time being, at least.

**Incursion by a neighbor in Township:** On March 4, 2012 an offensive youth living on rent in front of the house of Mr. Karimur Rahman Sanori, Ahmadi tried to disturb the peace. He along with his colleagues sought a scuffle with Mr. Sanori for no reason, attempted entry into his house, and smashed the window pane of his house.

The other neighbours helped Mr. Sanori and called the police, whereafter they took to heels.

It is worth noting that a Khatme Nabuwwat conference was held in the area a day earlier. Mullas had indulged in hate propaganda and provoked the public against the Ahmadiyya community. This incident was perhaps a consequence of the conference.

**Sympathizer of an Ahmadi is killed in Rachna Town:** Mr. Zahid Anwar, a non-Ahmadi nephew of Ch. Bashir Ahmad, Ahmadi was killed on March 5, 2012.

Mr. Bashir Ahmad, an official of a local Ahmadiyya community was attacked on September 7, 2011. He was hit by several shots but luckily survived after a major surgical operation. He is unable to move about freely and is restricted to stay at home.

Mr. Ahmad's nephew Mr. Zahid Anwar who is a non-Ahmadi got an FIR registered at that occasion as complainant. Mr. Anwar was attacked on March 5, 2011. He was hit by four bullets and stabbed. He was taken to the hospital in emergency but he did not survive. Although a non-Ahmadi, he was kind and sympathetic to Ahmadi in trouble.

The sectarian bigots made him pay for his humane and caring ways.

**Cruel discrimination in education:** Mr. Ilyas Ahmad Umair of Iqbal Town was a student of ACCA in the Acute Business College. The college administration called him and inquired from him whether he was an Ahmadi. Upon confirmation they returned his dues to him and strictly prohibited him from entering the college. This disturbed him greatly, but he was counseled to bear up with the discrimination and persecution courageously as he was not the first or one of the few who have suffered.

Mr. Umair is seeking admission elsewhere.

## **Written threat from a mosque**

**Lahore; March 2012:** Hafiz Abdul Aziz, the leading mulla of Jamia Masjid Anwar Madina is rabidly anti-Ahmadiyya. Recently he wrote a threatening letter on his letter-head pad from the mosque and sent it to two Ahmadi of Lahore. The mulla also posted anti-Ahmadiyya literature and pamphlets to many Ahmadi including the president of the local Ahmadiyya community in Sabzazar and his Working Committee. The threat letter was sent to Mr. Mubarak Ahmad Tishna of Bhati Gate and Mr. Muhammad Rasheed Kahlu of Sabzazar. It carried the following message:

### **“Warning**

**You are warned to leave this area, indeed Lahore within one month otherwise you will be responsible for whatever happens to you. The rest of your fellows are advised to abandon all their activities.”**

Authorities have been informed of this and the local police have been requested to register a case.

A copy of the original is produced at Annex to this report.

## **A vicious attempt in Faisalabad**

**Faisalabad; February 29, 2012:** Ahmadis in Faisalabad continue to be targeted by anti-Ahmadiyya extremists. Mr. Muhammad Raees uddin is a local Ahmadi official. He was at home in the evening along with his son, Umer bin Raees. Umer was working on his computer when he heard some sound at the main-gate. He peeped from the window and saw a man jumping over the gate. The intruder opened the gate and let three more armed men in the house. Umer turned off the lights inside the house and informed his father. All the inside doors were bolted. The attackers tried to open the inner doors but did not succeed. In the meantime Mr. Raees phoned his neighbours and friends for help. The intruders fled before their arrival.

Ahmadis of this area had received a written threat recently to the effect:

**“Abandon this place otherwise we will kill your family and burn the worship-centre.”**

## **Kidnapped Ahmadis – a short survey**

Ahmadis have been kidnapped for years; a few were killed, some are still detained while others were released on receipt of ransom. Almost all of them were taken away apparently for ransom but there is clear and repeated evidence that those who commit this crime do so with Ahmadis' faith as excuse. They tell that to their captives.

One victim was picked up in broad daylight from city suburbs, and whisked to FATA. The kidnapers demanded ten million US dollars for his release. They thought that the community was rich and will pay up. They do not realize that the community funds are collected for charity, and it would be impossible and forbidding for the community leaders to feed terrorists with the hard-earned money that contributors scrap for charity and religious objectives.

The kidnapers were harsh with their victim. They tortured him for weeks while negotiations went on with his family. His tormentors told him repeatedly: “You are a *Kafir* (infidel); your blood and money is not only licit for us, it is a great divine bounty. Your murder would be an entry ticket to paradise for us. If you were not a Mirzai (Ahmadi) we would not have touched you. We know you are a good man with excellent reputation; your only fault is your Mirzai faith.”

The victim's family could muster only a part of the original demand of the extremists, by selling all their assets. Once the terrorists were sure that they could milk this cow no further, they released their 'good man' with clear warning that he would never be out of their reach.

This victim was luckier than some other kidnapped Ahmadis. One of them was picked up from Quetta in 2009. They tortured him and made him meet their demands. Eventually, having received the ransom they killed him by shooting him in the head. During the negotiating weeks he was told that as per Sharia (their version), a Qadiani's blood money and women were within the permitted (*Jaiz*) category.

In another case, the kidnapers took away an Ahmadi from Khyber Pakhunkhwah. They detained him four months before releasing him on payment of a few million rupees. However, they chopped away one of his ears before dropping him back at his house.

A prominent Ahmadi was kidnapped in Quetta in March, 2010. While in captivity, the kidnapers referred to his Ahmadiyya origin and told him, “You distribute Ahmadiyya literature, and convert people to Ahmadiyya by giving them money. Give us the money, and we will distribute the literature for you.” They asked him the names of Ahmadi community officials and businessmen in the city.

Kidnapping of Ahmadis has occurred in all the provinces of Pakistan. The police have not been co-operative in most cases, with a few exceptions. The release of two victims in Faisalabad and the arrest of their kidnappers is a case in point.

### **Hostility in Sheikhupura**

**Sheikhupura; February 2012:** The situation of Ahmadis is getting worse in Sheikhupura too like many other cities of Pakistan. Some incidents are reported below:

1. The son of Sheikh Muhammad Arif of Kot Abdul Malik received a life-threatening phone call from an unknown number on February 23. The caller demanded one million rupees as ransom for his life. The police were informed of this. Again on February 26, he received another such call. The caller introduced himself as Aassu Baloch from Kot Lakhpat Jail and told him that his man would visit him; he should give him the money he would demand, otherwise he would get him killed. The police have been informed of this incident.
2. Mr. Tahir Ahmad Dar a lecturer of Government College Sheikhupura was going on a motorbike when he was stopped by a man, named Mukhtar and his colleague. They abused Mr. Dar and threatened him of death.

The reason of the hostility is that Mr. Dar is an eyewitness to the murder committed by Mukhtar's son a few years ago. For that Mukhtar's son is in prison under capital punishment. Consequently Mukhtar and his other son have become staunch anti-Ahmadiyya opponents. Mukhtar's younger son has been noticed doing a recy of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Sheikhupura. An FIR has been registered with the police.

3. Two or three miscreants climbed the roof of the Ahmadiyya mosque and damaged the dish-antenna installed there. They also lobbed bricks in the mosque to provoke the Ahmadi youth on duty there. They, however, decided against no immediate response and telephoned for assistance. These miscreants left the scene soon afterwards. An FIR has been registered with the local police.

### **Anti-Ahmadiyya hate campaign through SMS**

**Bhakar, Punjab; February 2012:** Anti-Ahmadiyya elements have launched a campaign on mobile phones through SMS to activate the common people against the Ahmadiyya community. The following SMS was picked up in Bhakar area (translation):

*"Ahmadis cannot call themselves Muslims according to the constitution and law. They are not allowed to call their worship places mosque; they are forbidden to propagate their religion. Ahmadis are conspiring to have this law repealed. We have to safeguard the dogma of the End of Prophethood. Forward this message to all your contacts so that this law may become well-known and Ahmadis fail in their conspiracy."*

### **Hostility in District Khushab**

**Quaidabad; February 2012:** The anti-Ahmadiyya activism is high in Quaidabad these days. Two opponents, Athar Hussain and Gulshan Mochi are in the fore-front of this campaign. Another opponent, Umar Khayam, a member of Tahrik Minhajul Quran and a close relative of the local MPA led a rally against the Ahmadiyya community and agitated the participants against Ahmadis. Also a lot of posters containing anti-Ahmadiyya inscriptions were distributed in the bazaar. An anti-Ahmadiyya calendar was also published and distributed in the area.

## **Distribution of anti-Ahmadiyya offensive literature in District Khushab**

**Rabwah; March 14, 2012:** We reported in the Newreport of last month that Aalami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat Khushab circulated hateful pamphlets in the district. One of these carried the titles, names and addresses of Ahmadi-owned businesses. Identical lists were circulated earlier in Faisalabad and Sargodha. As the authorities failed to take due notice of this monstrous drive, the extremists indulged in attacks that resulted in serious injuries to two Ahmadi in Faisalabad. The Ahmadiyya central office therefore wrote a letter to all the relevant federal, provincial and district authorities and informed them of the hateful drive in Khushab. The letter concluded: "In view of the said circumstances, the reported anti-Ahmadi activists, and the campaign to indulge in extremist action against the listed Ahmadi businessmen, the authorities are requested to take due notice and appropriate action."

Ahmadiyya Office has not been informed of any action taken.

## **Mounting hostility in Azad Jammu and Kashmir**

**Mirpur, AJK; March 2012:** Pir Atiqur Rahman an MLA of JUP remains very active on the anti-Ahmadiyya front in AJK. He has sponsored anti-Ahmadiyya Khatme Nabuwwat conferences at various locations in the district. His anti-Ahmadiyya hateful statements are published in the vernacular press. A few samples:

*"The increasing activities of Qadianis will not be tolerated. Qadiani are a non-Muslim minority, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani and his followers are accursed and apostates; they can live in the Muslim state as infidels, but we will not allow them to live here in the guise of Islam."*

He has plans to hold more such rallies.

## **Anti-Ahmadiyya conferences**

**Rahim Yar Khan, Punjab; 8, 9 March 2012:** Anti-Ahmadiyya activities are on the rise these days throughout Pakistan. Hate provoking conferences are the most favourite means with the extremist leadership.

Such conferences were held in Rahim Yar Khan in southern Punjab on 8, 9 March, 2012 at three different places by the Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme Nabuwwat. These were widely publicized through ads and banners. Mulla Allah Wasaya who was specially invited and several other mullas addressed these conferences, they used foul language and provoked the audience against the Ahmadiyya community.

## **Problematic burial of an Ahmadi**

**Bandi, District Nawab Shah; February 12, 2012:** An Ahmadi, Mr. Yusuf Arain died here on February 12, 2012. He was buried in the common graveyard of the village where Ahmadi and non-Ahmadi have been buried for decades. This time the mullas objected to the burial of an Ahmadi in the common graveyard. They protested and had it published in the vernacular press that, "Since Qadianis were non-Muslims according to the law, their burial in the common graveyard is not permissible." They demanded serious notice by the authorities.

## **Mullas' mischief**

**Mahmoodabad, Jhelum; March 2012:** Mullas took undue interest in the private affairs of an Ahmadi family here and gave it a religious twist to foment agitation. They threatened to lead a procession against the Ahmadiyya community but were dissuaded after the intervention of some nobles of the area.

They, however, held a Khatme Nabuwwat conference in the neighbourhood of the Ahmadiyya mosque. Some miscreants threw ordinary fire works in the courtyard of the

Ahmadiyya mosque. Mullas used abusive language against the Ahmadi elders and instigated the public to violence against Ahmadis. Approximately 600 men attended the conference.

Ahmadis had to remain on guard to ensure security. The administration and the police were also informed.

### **Hostility in Sahiwal**

**Sahiwal; February, March 2012:** The mullas launched a propaganda against the district president of the Sahiwal Ahmadiyya community. The town administration decided to build a rain water drainage in front of the houses. People were asked to reduce their outer walls to the actual boundary of their houses. None obeyed this instruction except the Ahmadiyya president who had already made some allowance to that end.

The mullas targeted the Ahmadi and published a news in the daily Khabrain of February 17, 2012:

***“Qadiani interrupted the construction of road through illegal encroachment on the road.”***

These mullas of the Khatme Nabuwwat faction gathered in procession on March 5, 2012 at 8 a.m. in front of the Ahmadi’s residence. The police were informed by the Ahmadi president. At this occasion the local reporter of daily Khabrain arranged chairs, marquee and tea for the mullas at his house located a few houses away the Ahmadi’s house. Later the administration ordered demolition of the outer wall. A few mullas were designated to oversee the demolition. This action was Ahmadi-specific, as no other resident was made to demolish their outer walls.

The mullas then announced a big Khatme Nabuwwat conference in the ground of Sahiwal city municipality on April 7, 2012.

### **Hostility in District Faisalabad**

**Lathianwala, Faisalabad; March 8, 2012:**

1. Two armed motorcyclists came in front of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Lathianwala and apparently identified the location as such. The next day two armed men on a motorcycle which had no registration plate passed by the same mosque during the Friday prayers. It was discovered that those men were from Chak no. 103 R.B. and registered with police as ‘proclaimed offenders’.
2. The local Ahmadiyya community took permission from the Deputy Superintendent of Police to wall the local Ahmadiyya cemetery. Ahmadis started constructing it on March 10, 2012 when Javed Jutt, the president of the local chapter of Sunni Tahrik arrived at the spot and called the police. The SHO came to the site with a heavy contingent and ordered the work to be stopped.

Ahmadis contacted the DSP who said that the work will be permitted after a week subsequent to a check on property records.

### **Harassment faced by Ahmadi in District Gujrat**

**Gotariala, February 29, 2012:** Mr. Muhammad Rashid had to complain to the police about the hate campaign against him in the village. It becomes overt recently when an extremist painted slanderous phrases on Rashid’s house. Rashid named one Muhammad Ahsan to have undertaken that defiling scrawl that hurt his religious sentiments. As he had freshly painted his house, the graffiti spoiled it and caused him financial loss. “I am a peaceful man, and do not wish a disturbance in the peace of the village”, he wrote to the SHO. He sent a copy of his complaint to the District Police Officer and another to the Vice President of the local Peace Committee.

## **Another big lie is manufactured**

**Lahore:** The daily Ausaf, Lahore in its issue of March 20, 2012 reported under a three-column headline, (excerpt):

***Qadianis have conspired to break up Pakistan through support of anti-Islam movements.***

**An ‘operation’ by state authorities in Chenab Nagar will result in major disclosures.**

**Qadianis have constructed arms depots. Ata ul Mohaiman**

***‘United India’ is a matter of faith with Qadianis. Maulana Abdur Rauf Farooqi, Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema, Dr Farid Piracha (JI), Allama Zubair Ahmad and others address press conference.***

**Lahore; (our correspondent):** *Speakers at the Majlis Ahrar Islam Pakistan’s annual Khatme Nabuwwat conference held to commemorate the 10,000 martyrs of 1953, under the chairmanship of Quaid Ahrar Syed Ataul Muhaiman in the Central Office in New Muslim Town stated that the tyranny of the martial law was first exercised against the Khatme Nabuwwat Movement of 1953. Qadian terrorist organization Furqan Battalion clad in army uniforms, played with the blood of Muslims (Mussalmanon kay khun se holi kheli) and the authorities using state forces shed the holy blood of 10,000 unarmed Muslims.*

...

All these lies have been appropriately nailed by Ahmadis before; however to put the blame of the death of those ‘rioting martyrs’ on Furqan Battalion is a lie which has occurred to Ahraris, perhaps first time 60 years after the riots. The Furqan Battalion comprised of Ahmadi volunteers, was overtly under the high command of Pakistan Army.

It undertook defense operations in Azad Kashmir area, and its services were formally recognized, praised and placed on record by no less a person than General Gracy, the Pakistan Army Chief.

It had nothing to do with the Punjab Disturbances of 1953. The honorable judges of the acclaimed Enquiry did not even hint at the lie mentioned by Ahrar speakers; they however did take note of the death of each and every rioter in all the cities of the Punjab; their total amounted to 37 as compared to the alleged figure of 10,000.

The prestigious Enquiry Report is now again available in the market.

## **An op-ed loaded with present-day reality of Pakistani mulla, media and mandarin**

**Lahore:** Leading right-wing daily of Lahore, the Nawa-i-Waqt published an op-ed written by Ahmad Kamal Nizami of Faisalabad, in its issue of March 19, 2012. Its title is “**Maulvi Faqir, the unarmed soldier of the End of Prophethood Movement passed away...!**” This op-ed merits a mention in this report for reference in future. While Maulvi Faqir Muhammad was an archetype mulla, the Nawa-i-Waqt is a typical vernacular daily in Pakistan and Ahmad Kamal Nizami is a senior Urdu columnist and op-ed writer who is a master in the art of self-promotion through verbosity. His own portrait is a permanent part of the standard logo of his columns:

He started his columns thus: “When the evil (*fitna*) of Qadianism took root in the Pak-Indian subcontinent at the end of the nineteenth century/beginning of the twentieth numerous notables took it upon themselves to uproot it and crush its head...” In order to describe the personality of the founder of the Ahmadiyya community. Nizami then indulged in vernacular and cultural insults, jibes, slander, like: Apostate, heretic (*zindique*), Jew, Musailma the liar, Salman Rushdi, Rajpal, Christian, Aswad Ansi, Abu Jahal (the arch-enemy of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>) Abu Lahab, Walid Bin Mughira (leading infidels in Mecca at the time of Prophet Muhammad p.b.u.h.) and Ibne Saba.

Nizami does not miss an opportunity of self-promotion; in this article he managed to mention his father as, “My respected blessed father, the delivered soul (*marhum wa maghfur*)

had no honorable words in his lexicon for the traitors to Islam, and he always kept his sword out of the sheath for such people.”

In praise of the deceased mulla, he concludes: “He believed, and rightly so, that the Jihad against Qadianism was a Jihad against Satanism and imperialism.” No need to use cryptic language in Pakistan to invite people to murder others for their faith.

Nizami brings on record that, at one point in time, Maulvi Faqir Muhammad was like a symbol of terror to the administration. The administrative authorities were dead scared of him. This is true. It reminds one of June 2003 when the Education Department of the Government of Punjab issued a formal government letter with the title: LETTER RECEIVED FROM MAULVI FAQIR MOHAMMAD, accorded it TOP PRIORITY and sent it by REGISTERED mail to the DCO, DPO and EDO (Edu). The letter contained unworthy instructions regarding three ‘Qadiani Schools’ in Faisalabad. This letter would continue to bring shame to the Education Department and the Home Department of this great province for many years to come.

However, it seems, occasionally there were some courageous officials who showed his true face to Maulvi Faqir Muhammad in the mirror. According to Nizami, many years ago a Russian troupe was scheduled to visit Faisalabad for a performance. Maulvi Faqir objected to the visit and initiated a campaign against the visit. The administration arrested him under the *Goonda* (goons) Act and declared him a *Goonda*. Nizami accuses the concerned official of working for the Satan.

Only a sample of this mulla’s recent public statements are reproduced below (headlines in press):

- **Qadianis should be expelled from Pakistan. Maulvi Faqir Ahmad**
- **The penalty of death for apostasy should be imposed. Maulvi Faqir Muhammad**
- **Qadiani place of worship in village 109 R/B should be demolished. Maulvi Faqir Muhammad**

In Faisalabad, the civil society has been led by clerics like Maulvi Faqir Muhammad and intellectuals like Nizami; this has resulted in general radicalization of the local population. Only in the Ahmadiyya sector, Ahmadis have been killed here in broad daylight in bazaars, children were kidnapped for ransom, students were expelled from professional colleges and attempts were made on the life of Ahmadi leaders. Mr. Iqbal, who spent more than 7 years in prison on a false charge of blasphemy and was eventually acquitted by the High Court also belonged to this district and was condemned for life by a Faisalabad court.

Nizami knows what is palatable and acceptable in the various circles these days, so he ends his article with: “*The blessed soul (mulla Faqir) spent all his life working for Islam and the dogma of End of Prophethood. His services in the cause of eradication of Qadianism, selfless service to humanity, promotion of religious tolerance and fraternal feelings, forbearance and unity of the Ummah are praiseworthy.*” Never mind the internal contradictions of his statement, Ahmad Kamal Nizami has written an op-ed that manifestly describes the mulla, the print media and the officialdom in the early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century Pakistan.

The original article (in Urdu) is held in the archives of the Ahmadiyya central office.

## **Asian Human Rights Commission hits the nail on the head**

**March 12, 2012:** The AHRC issued still another firm and unequivocal statement on the Ahmadis’ situation in Pakistan. The occasion was the murder of two Ahmadis in Nawab Shah within 10 days. The statement was given the well-considered headline: **PAKISTAN: Government makes no effort to halt the persecution of Ahmadis.** The statement points to, in the name of democracy, various violations of Ahmadis’ rights – their killing and

kidnapping, the ‘frustrating’ role of the media in this field, even the problem faced by Ahmadis in the education sector. It sums up the situation as a challenge to the government of President Zardari and urges the government: “In order to sustain and solidify democracy it must build up a joint and solid foundation of the dignity and deployment of human rights.”

Extracts:

**PAKISTAN: Government makes no effort to halt the persecution and killings of Ahmadis**

The situation in Pakistan grows worse for the religious minority groups on a daily basis. The security and law and order situation has become so chaotic that the authorities seem to have no control over providing protection to these minorities. The fundamentalist Muslim leaders (Mullahs) have a free rein and relentlessly exploit the blasphemy laws for their personal interests and these laws were legislated to debilitate and undermine universal human rights. Members of all faiths have been victims of these merciless violations of human rights including Christians, Hindus and even Shiites. However, the main focus of this brutality is the Ahmadi and the killing of Ahmadis is not considered a crime by the state and the law of the land.

...

Since January 2011, another ten (Ahmadis) have been murdered. During the last two weeks more Ahmadis were shot and killed in Nawab Shah, Sindh Province. The latest one to be killed was Dr Maqsood Ahmad, a homeopathic practitioner. He was a man that was always helpful, generous and kind to everyone regardless of their religion. Just a week earlier, another prominent Ahmadi, Mr. Ikram, was shot and killed. His grandson, Munib, was also shot and remains in hospital under treatment. He is a brilliant young man, just eighteen years of age and a student. There were quite a few others who were shot but escaped death. Some of them are suffering from severe trauma and other forms of stress related disability. The Government authorities, police and judiciary take absolutely no notice of such cruelty practiced upon the Ahmadis but on the other hand overtly support anti-Ahmadiyya activities and deny Ahmadis the right to even protect themselves.

...

Now however, there is a frightening surge in such incidents against Ahmadis. The Government of Pakistan needs to be cautioned about the consequences of such anarchy. Upholding justice and the fundamental freedoms of all is an essential obligation of democracy which includes human rights. Without fulfilling such obligations claiming to be a democratic state is no better than a farce.

For some years now, Ahmadi elites in Pakistan have been targeted. Several businessmen, engineers, doctors, academics and others have been either killed or kidnapped. Some have been ransomed at a very high cost and there are others, who have not been traced and the authorities have shown no interest in their recovery.

Ahmadi teachers have been discriminated against and even terminated because of their faith. Some of them were known to be of excellent caliber but they have been deprived the opportunity to serve the youth of the nation.

In the current resurgence of religious persecution and hate mongering, the role of the media is equally frustrating. Everywhere in Pakistan, walls are littered with writings and posters exhorting people to kill Ahmadis. Mullahs are free to organize and lead anti-Ahmadiyya processions and conferences which are painfully indecent and abusive. The media has a critical responsibility to be absolutely just, neutral, truthful and contribute to the development of an enlightened and harmonious society imbued with the spirit of unity, cooperation, tolerance and understanding.

For Pakistan, human rights, justice, respect, safety and security of its citizens is in a perilous situation and presents a serious challenge for the government of president Zardari. In order to

sustain and solidify democracy it must build up a joint and solid foundation of the dignity and deployment of human rights.

*Released on March 12, 2012*

## **Update on the Phalia case**

**Phalia:** Last month we reported an important case from Phalia, District Mandi Bahauddin with the following headlines and introductory paras:

### ***Enormity of mullas' mischief***

**Three false criminal cases registered in quick succession with police against father and son**

### ***The Punjab Police at the service of sectarian bigots***

*Phalia, District Mandi Bahauddin; February 2012: Here is a story fit for archives as it describes in some essential detail the plight of Ahmadis in Pakistan in the year 2012. A future historian will find it useful to ascertain with fair amount of accuracy the modus operandi of clerics in persecution of Ahmadis, the complicity of the police, the twilight role of the judiciary and the unsavory style of governance from the provincial capital. Those concerned with human rights in Pakistan these days will also find it informative.*

Briefly, three criminal cases under the anti-Ahmadi law and other laws were registered with FIR No. 45/12, 71/12 and 72/12 in Police Station Phalia against Ahmadis in the month of February 2012. If declared guilty, Ahmadi accused could be imprisoned for seven years. The two main accused were arrested: the others had to flee.

At the end of the story it was mentioned that the judge did not confirm the bail of the two main accused for charge under PPC 365/511, the additional charge. It is now learnt that a higher court has now confirmed the bail application and the two Ahmadis have been released from prison. They will however face the prosecution.

## **Update on the serious threat posed by the administration to Ahmadiyya press**

**Rabwah:** Last month the lead story of the Newsreport was the DCO's order to cancel the declaration of the Ahmadi women's monthly magazine Misbah and a similar action intended against the daily Alfazl. Now we have received copies of both the official letters. These are placed in our records.

However, there is a welcome development to the last month's report. The management of the threatened periodicals lodged an appeal with Lahore High Court and engaged a renowned attorney to present their case. The good judge has held in abeyance the DCO's order against the monthly Misbah and issued a stay order in favour of the daily Alfazl till April 26, when the petition will be heard.

The ugly threat has been neutralized - at least, for present. However the sword is hanging.

## **Run for your life - an op-ed fit for archives**

Pervez Hoodbhoy, a renowned social scientist, scholar and column-writer wrote an article on the issue of 'religious faith' in Pakistan; it was published by the Express Tribune in its issue of March 5, 2012. The article is bold, censorious and could be valuable to those who remain willing to learn from life. Extracts

**In Pakistan one's religious faith, or lack of one, has become sufficient to warrant execution and murder.**

Eighteen bloodied bodies, shot Gestapo-style, lay by the roadside. Men in army uniforms had stopped four buses bound from Rawalpindi to Gilgit, demanding that all 117 persons on

board alight. Those with Shia sounding names on their national identification cards were separated out. Minutes later it was all over; the earlier massacres of Hazara Shias in Mastung and Quetta had been repeated.

...

In Pakistan one's religious faith, or lack of one, has become sufficient to warrant execution and murder. The killers do their job fearlessly and frequently. The 17<sup>th</sup> century philosopher and mathematician, Blaise Pascal, once observed that "men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it for religious conviction."

Equipped with just enough religion to hate those with another faith – but not enough to love their coreligionists – Pakistanis have mostly turned their backs on religious atrocities. Exceptionally grotesque ones, such as when 88 Ahmadis quietly praying in Lahore on a Friday were turned into corpses, have also failed to inspire public reaction. Mass executions do not interest Pakistan's religious parties, or Imran's Khan's PTI. For them, only the killings by American drones matter.

...

Until recently, Pakistan's Shias did not have the self-image of a religious minority. They had joined Sunnis in supporting Mr. Bhutto's 1974 decision to declare Ahmadis as non-Muslim. But now they are worried. The Tribal Areas convulsed in sectarian warfare: Kurrum, Parachinar and Hangu (in the settled districts) are killing grounds for both Sunni and Shia, but with most casualties being Shia. City life has also become increasingly insecure and segregated. Karachi's Shia neighborhoods are visibly barricaded and fortified.

But while Shias are numerous enough to put up a defence, Ahmadis are not. Last month, a raging 5,000 strong mob descended upon their sole worship place in Satellite Town, Rawalpindi. Organized by the Jamaat-i-Islami, various leaders from Jamaat-ud-Da'wa, Lashkar-e-Taiba and Sipah-e-Sahaba addressed the rally demanding the worship place's security cameras and protective barricades be removed. The police agreed with the mob's demands, advising the Ahmadis to cease praying. The worship place has now been closed down.

Forbidden from calling themselves Muslims, Ahmadi children are expelled from school once their religion is discovered. Just a hint may be enough to destroy a career. Knowing this, the school staff at a high school in Mansehra added the word 'Qadiani' to the name of an Ahmadi student, Raheel Ahmad effectively eliminating the boy's chances of getting a university education. The same school also held an anti-Ahmadi programme, distributing prizes to winners.

The latest outrage is that new ID cards, issued by the Punjab government, require the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) to insert a 'Qadiani' entry in the online forms. Ahmadis now do not have the option of declaring themselves non-Muslims. Instead the government demands that they open themselves to public persecution, a method that Nazi Germany used against Jews.

Even dead Ahmadis are not spared: news had reached the Khatm-e-Nabuwat that Nadia Hanif, a 17-year old school teacher who had died of illness ten days ago, was actually an Ahmadi but buried in a Muslim graveyard in Chanda Singh village, Kasur. Her grave was promptly dug up, and the body removed for reburial.

Pakistan's state apparatus, for all its tanks and guns, offers no protection to those deemed as religious minorities. Is it just weakness? Or, perhaps complicity? While swarms of intelligence agents can be seen in many places, they fail spectacularly to intercept religious terrorists. More ominously, recent months have seen state-sanctioned Difa-e-Pakistan Council (DPC) rallies across the country, drawing many tens of thousands. Prominent self-proclaimed Shia and Ahmadi killers, prance on stage while holding hands in a show of unity.

At the Multan DPC rally on February 17, Khatm-e-Nabuwwat leaders bayed for Ahmadi blood while sharing the stage with the famed Malik Ishaq, a self-acclaimed Shia-killer. Newspaper reports say Ishaq was freed last year after frightened judges treated him like a guest in the courtroom, offering him tea and biscuits. One judge attempted to hide his face with his hands. But after Ishaq read out the names of his children, the judge abandoned the trial.

What does the Pakistan Army think it will gain tolerating – or perhaps encouraging – such violent forces once again? Its *jawans* pay an enormous price in fighting them, and their offshoots, elsewhere in the country. But perhaps the notion that extremists are Pakistan's 'strategic assets' for use in Kashmir and Afghanistan has captured the military's mind. Or, post-OBL, perhaps a miffed leadership seeks to show anger at the US through such rallies. Whatever the explanation, Pakistan's minorities face catastrophe.

*Published in The Express tribune, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012.*

Let, it not be said that nobody fired the warning shots.

Also, **“when you are defending the future, you just can't give up,”** said Marianne Pearl in her interview to Shehribano Taseer.

### **A view on Ahmadi killing – fit for archives**

**Lahore, March 13, 2012:** The Daily Times of Lahore published an article by Usman Ahmad, titled: VIEW: Ahmadi killing. He wrote it after hearing the news of target-killing of two Ahmadis in Nawab Shah with the space of ten days. It is well-worded and moving, fit for archives. This gripping piece is reproduced as annex to this report.

### **Ahmadis behind bars**

Mr. Nusrat Ahmad of Goleki, district Gujrat was arrested in a fabricated murder charge. He was not even named in the FIR. His arrest is an afterthought of the interested mullas. The complainant family said, “We know that he is innocent, but he is a Mirzai (Ahmadi); if he recants we'll ask the police to set him free.”

### **From the Media**

#### **Ahmadi school teacher tortured to death**

*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; April 1, 2012*

#### **Targeted attack: Ahmadi killed, grandson injured in S Benazirabad (Sindh)**

*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 1, 2012*

#### **Targeting minorities: Ahmadi man shot dead in Shaheed Benazirabad**

**The victim, Maqsood Ahmad, was a resident of Rabwah in Punjab.**

*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 8, 2012*

**Police bar Ahmadis from entering place of worship. Officials say decision taken to prevent clashes among religious groups.**

*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 3, 2012*

**80 years old (Ahmadi) target-killed on sectarian grounds Muhammad Akram had come from Australia to visit his relations and daughter.**

*The daily Aman, Faisalabad; March 8, 2012*

#### **Kuthiala Shekhan: 5 of a Qadiani family accept Islam**

*The daily Ausaf, Lahore; March 13, 2012*

**Terrorists are not fit to be called humans, let alone Muslims. Asfand Yar Wali. Our mosques are not safe, neither funerals, nor the common man.**

*The daily Mashraiq, Lahore; March 12, 2012*

**Jauharabad: Great unrest over Qadianis' construction of a mosque-like place of worship**

**Commissioner Sargodha orders action**

*The daily Jang, Lahore; March 13, 2012*

**Chenab Nagar: People without meals due electric load-shedding**

*The daily Pakistan, Lahore; March 21, 2012*

**Qadiani places of worship are centers of conspiracies – (mulla) Abdul Rauf (of Markazi Jamiat Ahle Hadith)**

*The daily Express, Faisalabad; April 5, 2012*

**Dr Salaam conveyed to the US the model of Pak nuclear plan. The Qadiani Dr was awarded Nobel award due pressure of the Jewish and Zionist lobby, and not on merit. Khalid Cheema (Ahrar leader)**

*The daily Ausaf, Lahore; March 21, 2012*

**Memo Gate conspiracy: Qadianis want supremacy in Pakistan. Shuhada Khatme Nabuwwat Conference (in TT Singh) – Yusuf Raza Gilani statement to block misuse of the Blasphemy law is extremely regrettable and shameful – Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema, Nazim Ala Ahrar**

*The daily Ausaf, Lahore; March 10, 2012*

**Rulers urged to foil Qadianis' conspiracies (seminar in Multan)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 11, 2012*

**Chief editor Ausaf's visit to Jamia Naeemia (in Lahore) – Qadiani, Jewish and Hindu lobby is active against Pakistan. Youth will have to be saved from going astray. Madrassahs are the citadels of Islam.**

*The daily Ausaf, Lahore; March 9, 2012*

**Suicide blast at funeral; 16 dead (Badbher near Peshawar)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 12, 2012*

**Fierce clashes, suicide attack in Khyber agency; scores killed**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 3, 2012*

**13 killed in Khyber Agency mosque blast**

*The daily News, Lahore; March 24, 2012*

**24 militants, eight security personnel killed (in S.Waziristan, Orakzai)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 25, 2012*

**Top police officer dies in Peshawar suicide attack**

*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 14, 2012*

**Militants destroy 4 KP schools in a day**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 17, 2012*

**University campus blown up in Charsadda**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 1, 2012*

**Members of Hizb-ut-Tehrir told me of plan to attack the GHQ during Corps Commanders' or Formation Commanders' meeting. Major Suhail Akbar, prosecution witness**

*The daily Aman, Faisalabad; March 2, 2012*

**Tortured for re-converting to Christianity**

Christian woman goes missing

Scores of people shaved her head; forced her family to leave village (in Sialkot)

*The daily Nation, Lahore; March 8, 2012*

**Ex SHO convicted of blasphemy in Kasur**

A local court on Friday awarded life imprisonment to a former police inspector over blasphemy and slammed a Rs. 200,000 fine on him (in a case involving a prayer leader as victim of a robbery)

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 17, 2012*

**Brig Ali was planning to impose Caliphate. Colleague**

*The daily Waqt, Lahore; March 7, 2012*

- Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat banned. Ludhianvi says ban to appease US masters.**  
*The daily Nation, Lahore; March 11, 2012*
- Shahbaz forms committee to identify Barelvi mosques**  
 TNRM objects to appointment of Rana Sanaullah as committee head  
*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 19, 2012*
- Three more religious groups banned (namely Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat, Al-Harmani Foundation and Rabita Trust)**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 11, 2012*
- Maulvi Faqir Muhammad the central Information Secretary of Alami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat is dead**  
*The daily Aman, Faisalabad; March 18, 2012*
- HRCF finds official appeasement of extremists**  
*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 19, 2012*
- We will ensure protection of human rights of minorities. Asif Ali Zardari**  
*The daily Mashriq, Lahore; March 7, 2012*
- Those who attack funerals are beasts, not humans. Rehman Malik**  
*The daily Mashriq, Lahore; March 12, 2012*
- Govt committed to welfare of minorities. PM**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 7, 2012*
- Punjab Assembly: Resolution adopted to include Quran in the syllabus**  
*The daily Waqt, Lahore; March 5, 2012*
- Supreme Court questions style of governance (in the Punjab)**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 13, 2012*
- Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema, General Secretary of Majlis Ahrar Islam said, "The US and worldwide imperialism wish to take control of Pakistan's nuclear assets and its natural resources. Baluchistan is on hit list these days." He had returned from participation in Pakistan Defence Council APC in Quetta.**  
*The daily Ausaf, Lahore; March 1, 2012*
- If MQM forms the government, the word 'Minority' will be removed. Altaf Hussain**  
*The daily Khabrain, Lahore; March 20, 2012*
- Brelvi leader alleges pro-Deobandi bias in Defence Housing Authority**  
*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 12, 2012*
- The Blasphemy law is meant to protect minorities JI Sialkot**  
*The daily Din, Lahore; March 9, 2012*
- Pakistan: Government makes no effort to halt the persecution and killings of Ahmadis. Statement of Asian Human Rights Commission in AHRC-STM-055-2012**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 12, 2012*
- RT Question More. Destroy all churches in the Arabia Peninsula - Saudi Grand Mufti**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 14, 2012*
- Mosque arson in Brussels leaves imam dead**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 14, 2012*
- Tajikistan: Qadianis defeated in debate. Two accept Islam**  
*The Daily Ausaf, Lahore; March 8, 2013*
- (Mulla) Ludhianvi for severing ties with US**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 12, 2012*
- US soldier kills 16 Afghan civilians in rampage**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 12, 2012*
- HR situation deteriorating, warns HRCF**  
*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 19, 2012*

***US missionaries injured in Bangladesh by Muslim mob***

*The daily News, Lahore; March 1, 2012*

**HR violations increased last year: report (by HRCP)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 23, 2012*

***No rush to exit from Afghanistan: Obama***

British Prime Minister consulted

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 14, 2012*

**Taxi driver returns gold worth \$410, 000 to owner (in Bangkok)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 17, 2012*

***Election alliance. JI turned down PPP's offer, says Munawar***

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 6, 2012*

**Punjab Assembly: Resolution adopted to include the Quran in the (school) syllabus.**

*The daily Waqt, Lahore; March 7, 2012*

***Request for Musharraf's arrest sent to Interpol***

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 4, 2012*

**Siraj (JI) fears civil war if Nato supply restored**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 25, 2012*

***Dozens of bombs kill 52 across Iraq***

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 21, 2012*

**Who received how much?**

According to Younus Habib:

- Rs. 40 million was paid through Gen Beg to politicians.
- Rs. 70 million to former chief minister Sindh Jam Sadiq Ali.
- Rs. 15 million to Pir Pagara through Jan Sadiq
- Rs. 70 million to Younus Memon on the instructions of then president Ghulam Ishaq Khan and

According to the affidavit of former DG ISI Asad Durrani:

- Nawaz Sharif received Rs. 3.5 million
- Mir Afzal Khan Rs 10 million
- Lt. Gen Razaqat Rs. 5.6m for distribution among journalists.
- Abida Hussain Rs. 1 million
- Jamaat-i-Islami Rs.5 million
- Altaf Hussain Qureshi Rs. 0.5 million
- Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi Rs. 5 million
- Jam Sadiq Rs.5 million
- Mohammad Khan Junejo Rs. 0.25 million

Gen Beg for the politicians who wished not to be paid directly from the ISI

- Some amount was also dished out to the Army Welfare Trust.

- Pir Pagara Rs. 2 million
- Maulana Salahuddin Rs. 0.3 million
- Humayun Marri Rs. 1.5 million;
- Jamali Rs 4 million
- Kakar Rs. 1 million
- K. Baloch Rs. 0.5 million
- Jam Yousuf Rs. 0.75 million
- Bizenjo Rs 0.5 million
- Various small groups in Sindh received Rs. 5.4 million

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 9, 2012*

**Three FC men shot dead after 'BLA Court' verdict**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 4, 2012*

**Whither justice?" Judge is blood-stained (lahu lohan). Lawyers bash up the Civil Judge. Court-room is locked after expelling him.**

*The daily Mashriq, Lahore; March 7, 2012*

**At the time of his retirement Mr. Habib (Mehran Bank scandal case) was facing as many as 123 (criminal) cases.** NK Babar

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 12, 2012*

**Maulana Abdul Aziz former Imam of the Red Mosque acquitted**

*The daily Al Sharaq, Lahore; March 2, 2012*

**Blasphemy prosecution: Cleric made complainant on court directive**

*The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; March 3, 2012*

**Four policemen shot dead at picket in Gujrat (Punjab)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 14, 2012*

**Four booked (in Karachi) for selling two sisters, woman, boy**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 14, 2012*

**Muslim leader warns of devastating consequences of nuclear war**

In an effort to save the world, His Holiness (the Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Community) said that he had recently written to various Heads of State and world leaders to warn them of the dangers of the time. Apart from writing to His Holiness Pope Benedict, President Barack Obama and Canada's Prime Minister, His Holiness said he had written to both Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Iran's president Mahmood Ahmadinejad urging them to end their mutual hostilities and avoid war.

*Press release in London through alislam.org/press on March 25, 2012*

**Qadiani superintendent of Borstal prison departs for London with family. High authorities should ban his return and order his expulsion from country. Abdul Qayyum (Social activist in Faisalabad)**

*The daily Aman, Faisalabad; March 25, 2012*

**8 killed as Karachi burns**

*The daily News, Lahore; March 28, 2012*

**The poorest in India's cities are Muslim. Indian Planning Commission**

The worst situation prevails in Gujrat, UP and Behar. Commission considered only those people 'poor' who subsist on less than half dollar a day.

*The daily Mashriq, Lahore; March 22, 2012*

**Mention of religious denomination in job application forms is a great risk to national security. Allama Syed Sajid Naqvi of Millat Jafaria Pakistan**

*The daily Mashriq, Lahore; March 22, 2012*

**U.S. War Game Sees Perils of Israeli Strike Against Iran**

Washington: A classified war simulation held this month to assess the repercussions of an Israeli attack on Iran forecasts that the strike would lead to a wider regional war which could draw in the United States and leave hundreds of Americans dead, according to American officials.

In the end, the war-game reinforced to military officials the unpredictable and uncontrollable nature of a strike by Israel and a counterstrike by Iran, the officials said.

*The daily New York Times; March 12, 2012*

**Seven die in suicide attack on mosque (in Landi Kotal)**

*The daily Dawn, Lahore; March 24, 2012*

**Prayers disrupted in Ahmadiyya mosque (in Hyderabad, India)**

*The Times of India; March 26, 2012*

**Op-ed: A few bring a bad name**

It has been a complicated time for the Lahore Bar Association, giving ban on soft drink brand proposed recently by a faction of lawyers.

The entire legal community has resultantly come under fire with its reputation – if any remained – plummeting into the negative. Yet while sitting in the District bar room, I find certain colleague’s insensitivity towards the destruction of the legal fraternity’s image in the press more perturbing.

*Posted by Affan Taj on March 1, 2012 <http://www.dawn.com>*

**Op-ed: Stories of dark moments**

Now it is up to Pakistan’s minorities, be they Shias, Ahmadis, Christians, Hindus or Sikhs, to themselves approach their killers for peace or raise their voice anywhere in the world. The Baloch people have taken the initiative in this regard. They have realized that their ethnic cleansers will not desist from their evil designs nor will the hidden hands backing them will withdraw their support. It is only they themselves who have to chop the hand of tyranny.

*Dr. Muhammad Taqi in the daily Mashriq of March 4, 2012*

**Op-ed: Minorities**

But what has happened in the country for a long time, particularly in Punjab, is in contradiction to what the Quaid said (on August 11, 1947). For instance recently a campaign to spread hatred against the Ahmadi community has started in Rawalpindi....

Chief Minister Punjab often claims he will implement Jinnah’s vision in its true form in the country. If the chief minister truly respects and wants to implement the Quaid’s vision, he need to take notice of this issue without wasting time.

*Raja Shafa tullah’s letter in the News International of March 9, 2012*

**Op-ed: Ch Zafrulla Khan**

An interview of the renowned diplomat Jamshed Marker was published in the Sunday Express Magazine on January 29, 2012. He has issued the following statement to explain some of his remarks in that interview.

“My interview that was published in the Sunday Express contain my observation that Chaudhry Zafrulla Khan had signed the SEATO Agreement without consultation with the government. This is not true, and I am sorry about it. In fact, I suggested that at that time, that was the general impression held widely. Zafrulla Khan’s patriotism and integrity was beyond any doubt. I consider him one of the three personalities who are respected all over the world but they were not duly acknowledged in Pakistan. The other two luminaries were Professor Abdus Salaam and Faiz Ahmad Faiz.

*Sunday Express, Lahore; March 18, 2012*

**Oral Statement before UNHR Council**

By: Sultan Shahin, Editor New Age Islam, on behalf of United School’s International, on 9 March 2012.

**Madrassah Education is a Clear Violation of the Human Rights of Children**

... But many states, particularly in the Muslim majority countries, while paying vague lip service to these (H.R.) commitments are not actually heeding the urges of the world community. Madrassa education given to millions of Muslim children, across the world, instance is one example.

Both the Declarations emanating from Arab countries, Marrakesh 2010 and Cairo 2009, provided in the report, are full of high-sounding resolutions on protecting the rights of children. But it is wealthy Arab countries that fund the tens of thousands of madrassas running across the Muslim world. As practised today Madrassa Education is a clear violation of the human rights of children to equality, dignity and quality education. Along with funds, the petrodollar-rich Arab countries also provide the core curriculum and text books for these madrassas. This teaching provides basic grounding in an extremist religious outlook that keeps these children from interacting with other communities, even other Muslim sects, and thus deprives them of any possible opportunities for a normal life.

Most of the children admitted to these Islamic religious schools come from the poorest of the poor families. They are plucked out of their natural environment where they would have learned some skills necessary to survive as working adults. They are brainwashed in the madrassa by some semi-literate Mullahs, and once their utility in attracting Arab Funds earmarked for madrassa education is finished, they are literally thrown out on streets without any means or skills for survival. The wealthy and middle class Muslims do not send their children to madrassas, as they know that the only careers available to these children is to become low-paid imams or muezzins in village mosques. In some countries, like Pakistan, though, there is another option too. They can turn into suicidal human bombs, bringing some short-term prosperity to their impoverished families, but losing their own lives and killing scores of innocent men, women and children of other religions or other Islamic sects. I would, therefore, urge the Council to find some way to make countries stick to the promises and pious declarations they make to appear to be part of the comity of nations. The Council should also reiterate the Durban Declaration's goal of Dialogue among civilizations through education to all without any discrimination. Good quality education given to all students in Muslim societies would be conducive to both peace and prosperity of the world.

**Op-ed:                                    ISI has taken over GHQ**

...

The ISI's creeping coup – ISI officers returning to command positions in the army – against GHQ is fraught with problems. It has eroded the credibility and capacity of both the current DG ISI and COAS within the military and civil society. The ISI's spectacular failures (BB's assassination, Mumbai, Raymond Davis case, missing persons, Memogate, Mehrangate, Abbotabad, Saleem Shehzad, Get Zardari, etc) can all be responsible for the loss of over 3000 soldiers to the Pakistan Taliban and the terrorist attacks on GHQ and Mehran Navy Base. The fact that both the COAS and DG ISI have taken extensions in service has also undermined their credibility far and wide.

This is a critical point in Pakistan's political history. On the one hand, the civilians all agree that the military should be subservient to civilian authority, that the national security state must be replaced by a social welfare state and that peace and trade rather than war and aid paradigms should prevail in security policies without friends or enemies. On the other side, the military high command is more lacking in credibility now than at any time since 1971. Meanwhile, the judiciary and media have broken free from the stranglehold of the civilian executive and military command and want to hold both accountable.

A Truth and Reconciliation commission is desperately needed as in much of Latin America and Africa to hold errant civilians, soldiers and intelligence operators accountable. The ISI's internal political wing must be abolished and it must be brought under civilian authority. GHQ must follow security policies made on meaningful advice from civilians. And civilians should join hands to fashion a new national welfare state for the people of Pakistan.

*The editorial of The Friday Times, March 15, 2012*

**Op-ed: What went wrong?**

What has happened over the decades is a gross betrayal of the state's founding principles and a mockery of the values enunciated by the country's founder. Pakistan can survive, prosper and find a place of honour in the world community as a democratic nation if the rights of the federating units and minorities are not limited to the document that is the constitution but, in fact protected and sincerely enforced.

*The lead editorial of the Dawn on Pakistan Day, March 23, 2012*

**AHRC: The killing of Shias**

The government and parliament must immediately introduce a hate speech law to punish those who offend the feelings of the religious by disturbing a religious ceremony or creating public calumny. The law should also prohibit public expression of insults of a person or a group on account of national, ethnic, racial or religious affiliation or the lack of a religious affiliation.

*AHRC-STM-038-2012, February 29, 2012 on [www.humanrights.asia](http://www.humanrights.asia)*

**Op-ed: Where is justice?**

A frightening rumour – which was confirmed by a source that at least this author consider quite reliable – is making rounds in legal circles of Lahore. A nominee for the post of a High court judge who it is said is otherwise known for his financial probity and legal competence has been turned down after the 'Intelligence agencies' vetted him and found him to be a 'non-believer'.

In terms of civil liberties and rights of the people, the present judiciary has to do more to show Pakistanis that it is the protector of citizen rights irrespective of religion and creed. The Supreme Court has practised what at best can be termed selective. No suo motu notices have been forthcoming on many issues that plague the country. In August 2009, when the Christian minority in Gojra witnessed one of the worst pogroms in the country's history, the Supreme Court's silence was deafening. When in May 2010, 95 worshippers belonging to a minority community were slaughtered during Juma prayer, the Supreme Court failed to act. It was the same story all over again when this forced minority community faced repeated instances of discrimination and outright persecution in educational institutions and when their places of worship were closed down. Shia are hounded and killed almost every other day. Hindu women are abducted routinely and forcibly converted to Islam. It seems that unless you are a male, Sunni Muslim your constitutional rights are not a priority in Pakistan.

For the sake of fairness it is important to state here that not all is bleak. Thankfully there are still those amongst the judiciary, even if few and far between, who are possessed of reason and commonsense.

*By Yasser Latif Hamdani in The Friday Times, March 23, 2012*

**Annexes:**

- I. Warning notice to an Ahmadi from the Jamia Anwar Medina mosque
- II. An article by Mr. Usman Ahmad

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

# جامعہ مسجد انوار مدینہ

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## وارننگ

آپ کو وارننگ دی جاتی ہے کہ آپ عرصہ ایک ماہ میں یہ علاقہ  
 بلکہ لاہور چھوڑ دیں ورنہ آپ اپنے اچھے بُرے کے خود  
 ذمہ دار ہونگے۔ آپ کے باقی افراد کو بھی نصیحت ہے کہ وہ  
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Annex I

Warning notice to an Ahmadi from the Jamia Anwar Madina Mosque in Lahore:

“Warning

You are warned to leave this area, indeed Lahore within one month otherwise you will be responsible for whatever happens to you. The rest of your fellows are advised to abandon all their activities.”

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

### VIEW: Ahmedi killing —Usman Ahmad

*The day was in the words of Charles Dickens, "...one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold; when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade", and there all the tears of yesterday and tomorrow were shed once again*

Spring is supposed to be the season of renewal. It is the time of year when nature's life cycle begins again and the world heaves with the verdant breath of future promise. The ancient Mesopotamians ushered in the season with the festival of Akitu that celebrated the cutting of barley. In more recent times, spring festivals have become as abundant and vibrant as the fruits, flowers and harvests they extol. But, in our topsy-turvy age, the nascent Pakistani spring of 2012 has been harsher than the bleakest arctic winter for the country's Ahmedis. Life has given way to death, and joy has once again been consumed by the unholy shadow of bereavement. Last Wednesday, Maqsood Ahmad became the second Ahmedi to be killed in Nawabshah within the space of ten days. Two motorcyclists assailed him in the busy Mohni Bazaar and shot him dead at point blank range. He was 58 years old. This is just the latest harrowing episode in the decades-long persecution Ahmedis have suffered in a country that they helped build from its foundations.

We have been here too many times before. The constitutional amendment enacted by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1974, which declared Ahmedis to be non-Muslims, opened the way for a total moral collapse of society that has led us to where we are today. What more is there to say, amidst the many shameful silences, which has not already been said? There is no fresh perspective to the debate, no alternative, no middle ground, no tolerance, no quiet revolution in the hearts of the people and, therefore, no compromise or peace. So far, if we have learnt anything, it is that there are no limits or bounds that prejudice will not cross. And having observed this lesson, willful impotence is the choice most have opted for.

Where does the nation go from here? It is a question I dread to ask, but one which must be pointedly put forth for the answer will determine how we face the many serious challenges that lie ahead. Matters have gotten so out of hand that simple soul-searching is woefully insufficient, perhaps even impossible. The country is gripped by chaos and morality has been perverted. The murder and persecution of those whose beliefs are at variance with the mainstream is seen as the highest virtue, while indignity and outrage has become the preserve of the purveyors of terror.

More than anything else, the chief legacy of 1974 is the appropriation of the 'Will' of God. With the aid of this, religious extremists have been allowed to ride roughshod over Ahmedis in Pakistan. These extremists act with the sanction of the state, and have thus zealously latched onto the impunity this affords them in order to force their perverted catechisms down the throats of a docile laity — it is a form of submission — alas, the submission is to men of hate, rather than to a supreme omnipotent deity. Those who dare to speak out, like the late Salmaan Taseer, are usually silenced with bullets or bombs. Fear and oppression are the ultimate arbiters in this hideous affair.

The Ahmedi narrative does not make for easy reading. Over the past four decades well over 200 Ahmedis have been killed for their faith, while thousands have endured legal prosecution for the simple matter of enacting the rights of their religion. However, numbers, statistics, facts and figures can never convey the toll these events have taken on countless. One lost can never be explained away by a number.

Surely, enough is enough? The nation must awake from its collective stupor and protect the rights of those who deserve protection for the simple fact that they too are human beings regardless of their beliefs. The question of whether Ahmedis are Muslim or non-Muslim is irrelevant and, quite frankly, an appalling obfuscation of the real matter at hand, namely, that all people, regardless of their colour, faith, creed or politics have the right to peacefully exist in any society of the world. The Quranic teaching: There is no compulsion in religion — is nothing if not a universal declaration of freedom of faith and conscience. Persecution needs to be forsaken in favor of advancement of life and dignity. Hitherto, failure to act has only reaped one terrible harvest after another. Ahmedis have been at the forefront of this suffering, but it now afflicts the whole nation. No one is immune and with each passing day it becomes harder and harder to stem the tide.

But, these are mere words. Ideas to be expressed but not implemented. The state, judiciary and all the other estates of society seem unable or unwilling to enforce change. With each new death, with each new family destroyed, the conspiracy of inaction grows ever more entrenched.

And so, with no new dawn on the horizon, Maqsood Ahmad was laid to rest in his hometown of Rabwah. Among the mourners were numerous people whose lives had, in one way or another, been affected by the relentless hate directed towards the Jama'at. The father of a young son killed two years ago on that fateful day in Lahore, a father and son kidnapped and abused for many months just because of their profession of faith, a gentleman once arrested for reciting the name of God, came together to bear the weight of the funeral of another slain kinsman. The day was in the words of Charles Dickens, "...one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold; when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade", and there all the tears of yesterday and tomorrow were shed once again.

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