Rabwah targeted  
*December/January, 2014/15:* At the end of last year, anti-Ahmadi sectarian and extremist elements planned to turn the heat on Rabwah, Ahmadiyya centre in Pakistan. For this ignoble purpose they chose Ahmadiyya mosques and various religious epithets written on houses and business locations, also Ahmadiyya publications and their publishers and sellers etc. Their plan included effective support and help from political and official circles.

They pointed out dozens of locations in Rabwah where religious inscriptions ‘hurt their feelings’ (these inscriptions are common among Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis). They threatened that they would assemble and offer Friday congregational prayers at the river bridge (on entry to Rabwah) on 26 December 2014. They declared that the district road could be blocked. They also had it announced in the vernacular press that they would assemble in Rabwah on 4 January 2015 to celebrate the birthday of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and take out a huge unprecedented procession in the town. All this implied a serious threat to law and order.

To implement this portentous plan, mulla Hasan Muawiya aka Tooti arrived from Lahore. Mulla Ilyas Chinioti MPA (PML-N) offered his services. He led a big delegation of the ulama and called on the district and divisional authorities. It is learnt that they claimed support from Rana Sanaullah (former provincial minister of the Model Town fame) and Hamza Shahbaz Sharif.

It took the menacing delegation little time to convince the officials to do what was demanded. Although the Peshawar tragedy had already happened and the evil of extremism and terrorism had become bare-faced and all and sundry were condemning them with one voice, but wishes of the federal high command had perhaps not reached Chiniot in writing. So the DCO and DPO found it convenient to yield to the mulla, seek 15-days’ grace period and assured the religious and political bigots that they would deliver. “District authorities have promised to redress activists’ grievances,” reported *The Express Tribune* of December 27, 2014.

The official roller-coaster went into action. The police raided the only book depot in Rabwah and confiscated some books and prevailed upon its closure; the mullas were in company at the time. Tooti had himself videoed at the occasion making a general statement in police presence. Earlier two Ahmadi security guards were booked by the police on complaint of a mulla. Aamir Liaquat Husain of GEO TV had it announced that Ahmadis were responsible for what happened to school children in Peshawar. Mulla Ilyas Chinioti the PML-N MPA declared: “Jewish, Christian and Qadiani lobbies are active against national security.” *(The daily Ausaf, Lahore, December 20, 2014).* In these stressful circumstances, the police repeatedly sent for Ahmadi community leaders in Rabwah and told them to wipe off all the ‘inscriptions’ as demanded by the mulla. Ahmadis, of course, did not consent to this defiling and told the police that they will not let any private person do this desecration.

While this was going on in Rabwah, the Prime Minister had already announced in Islamabad his 20-point National Action Plan which included *inter alia* “Taking effective steps against religious persecution.”

Eventually on January 6, 2015 Ahmadis were told that the DPO had issued orders that the police itself would efface all the religious inscriptions in Rabwah. Accordingly the police arrived in the bazaar with their transport and a ladder. Ahmadis prayed to God and approached higher authorities against the callous and offensive intended action. The senior officials saw the obvious wrong and told the district authorities to have another look at the law and reconsider their action.
This put a break on the execution of the evil plan.

In the meantime, however, the Punjab Government had already banned the publication of the Ahmadiyya monthly ‘Tehrik Jadid’ through an official notification. One, Muhammad Ziaullah of Chiniot had put up an application to the DPO using highly abusive language against Ahmadi leaders, requesting him to confiscate Ahmadiyya publications, arrest their authors, publishers and promoters for being blasphemous. It is interesting that two of the named publications are titled: ‘In defence against attacks on the honour of Prophethood (pbuh)’ and ‘Answers to the allegations against Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)’. The so-called complainant demanded that the concerned individuals be booked in a criminal case under 295-C, 295-A, 11-W ATA, 295-B, 298-C. These laws invite penalty of death, life imprisonment etc and trial in an anti-terrorism court. While concluding he wrote, “These accused should be arrested and given the deserved punishment so as to cool down the anger of Muslims and to nip this conspiracy of promotion of sectarianism in the country.” Thankfully, the police took no action, this time.

As for the processions in Rabwah on the Birthday of the Holy Prophet, a fuller description is given in the story below.

Hateful anti-Ahmadi rallies and conference in Rabwah

Rabwah; January 4, 2015: Anti-Ahmadi mullas assemble periodically in Rabwah every year and hold rallies as show of power and to hurt the sentiments of Ahmadies. They leave no stone unturned to incite their audience against Ahmadis, the local inhabitants. They come from far and wide and hold conferences and take out processions in Rabwah three or four times every year. They pose a serious threat to the law and order of this town. Ahmadies feel threatened on these occasions, shops remain closed, women stay at homes and children do not go to school. Well before these rallies the Ahmadiyya leadership requests the authorities to stop these provocative events but authorities not only grant permission they provide administrative support as well to the menacing visitors.

This happened again on January 4, 2015 at the occasion of the birthday of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) despite the National Action Plan. Mullas transported their audience to Rabwah and took out three processions which passed through the main streets of the town.

The first procession was taken out from Masjid Bukhari in Muhalla Darul Fazl. It reached the Aqsa Square via the Bus Stop. On their way back to the Bus Stop they halted in front of Aiwan-e-Mahmood (the central office of Ahmadiyya youth in Pakistan) where Maulvi Ghulam Mustafa and Maulvi Umair Rashid spoke to the audience. The procession ended at the Bus Stop. The participants were about 150 and comprised mostly of madrassa students.

The second procession was taken out at 10:00 a.m. from Khichian, a suburb of Rabwah. It was led by the son of Maulvi Mushtaq. It reached the Aqsa Square and took a U-turn. It was led by Maulvi Mushtaq. The procession ended at Aqsa Square. The participants were about 150 and comprised mostly of madrassa students.

The third and the largest procession was taken out from Kot Wasawa after a conference attended by a crowd of 1000. It was jointly organized by Majlis Ahrare Islam Pakistan and Tehrik Khatme Nabuwwat. It was held in Masjid Ahar, Kot Wasawa and was presided by the head of the Ahrar, Syed Ataul Muhaiman Bukhari. As usual the speakers indulged in abuse against the Ahmadiyya community and incited the audience against Ahmadis instead of talking on the merits of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Some statements of the mulls recorded in the vernacular press are provided below:

The imperialist America and its allies have crossed the limit in transgression against Muslims; the Qadiani group is part of them attacking the beliefs of Muslims: Syed Muhammad Kafil Bukhari

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, January 16, 2015
O Qadianis! Accept our invitation to the Truth, or live like a non-Muslim minority and Kafir (infidels): Maulana Muhammad Migira

The Daily Pakistan; Lahore, January 16, 2015

The constitution of 1973 is sacred and its clause on Khatme Nabuwwat is more weighty than the rest put together. The government is not serious in putting a stop to Qadianis’ activities, but we will not desist from any sacrifice for the sake of end of prophethood: Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema

The Daily Express; Faisalabad, January 6, 2015

Mirza Qadiani was not only a liar but also the Great Deceiver: Maulana Mufti Muhammad Zahid

The Daily Islam; Lahore, January 8, 2015

In the time of the first caliph of Islam Sayyedna Siddique Akbar (RA) 1200 companions of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) were martyred safeguarding the Khatme Nabuwwat and killed Musailma the liar: Maulana Mufti Hasni

The Daily Islam; Lahore, January 8, 2015

This mission will continue until the liquidation of the deniers of the Khatme Nabuwwat: Maulana Zahid ur Rashidi

The Daily Islam; Lahore, January 8, 2015

Speakers who spoke at the conference were: Khawaja Aziz Ahmad, Zahid ur Rashidi, Ahmad Ali Siraj, Qari Shabbir Ahmad Usmani, Abdul Qadir Raepoori, Mufti Muhammad Zahid, Zahoor Ahmad Alvi, Qari Abdul Waheed Qasmi, Sana Ullah Ghalib, Saifullah Khalid, Professor Khalid Shabbir Ahmad, Tanvirul Hasan, Hafiz Muhammad Akram, Qari Muhammad Qasim Gujjar, Qari Abaidur Rahman Zahid, Muhammad Ismail Farooqi, Abdul Rauf Ahrar, Muhammad Akmal, Pir Muhammad Abuzar, Qari Ihsanullah, Sufi Abdul Ghaffar, Syed Noor ul Hasan Shah etc.

Anti-Ahmadiyya slogans were raised at full throat.

Some glimpses of the conference from the Daily Express of Faisalabad, January 6, 2015 are as follows:

- A membership desk was set up outside the venue and manned by Tehrike Talaba Islam. Fresh members were registered there, mostly the participating madrassa students. Another camp for ‘Fehme Khatme Nabuwwat Course’ was set up by the activists of the workers of the Khatme Nabuwwat Talagang who registered volunteers for the course.
- One session was held under the auspices of Tehrike Talaba Islam in which Professor Khalid Shabbir Ahmad, Syed Sabiul Hasan Hamdani, Muhammad Qasim Cheema, Syed Ataul Mannan Bukhari, Muhammad Talha Shabbir, Gulam Mustafa, Hafiz Muhammad Saleem Shah, Muhammad Usman, Muhammad Abu Bakr, Muhammad Sufyan Awais and others spoke to the audience.
- The participants were wearing a special uniform of Ahrar i.e. red shirts and white shalwars (trousers).
- Banners of Khatme Nabuwwat were put up at different places in Chiniot and Chenab Nagar.
- The venue echoed with resounding slogans of Khatme Nabuwwat.

Several resolutions were made in the conference and published in the daily Aman of Faisalabad, January 07, 2015. Translation of some of these follows:

- The blasphemers should be given death punishment.
- Mumtaz Qadri (the murderer of Governor Salman Taseer) should be set free.
- The UNO should implement worldwide law to safeguard the honor of all prophets and stop Qadianis from using the title of Islam. OIC should play a vital role in this regard.
- All major periodicals of Qadianis including the daily Alfazl should be banned.
- Qadianis should be stopped from using Kalima and other Islamic epithets.
- Qadiani places of worship should be made to look unlike a mosque.
- Religion should be mentioned in the national identity card.
- Anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance 1984 should be implemented effectively.
- A record of all persons attached with Qadiani institutes in Chenab Nagar and all over the country should be checked.
- Efforts to exclude the Islamic parts of the school syllabi should be stopped.
- Qadianis should be removed from key posts in civil services and in the armed forces, as also from the foreign service.
- Qadiani conspiracies are on the increase in the country; these should be stopped as these are responsible for the political instability.
- The activities of blasphemers and apostates are on the increase as a result of dual policy of the government.
- Madrassa students are being harassed through raids by the security forces. This should stop.
- Islamic system should be enforced in the country.

After the conference, the participants formed a large procession. It was taken out at 3 p.m. Buses, wagons, cars and rickshaws formed part of the procession. Approximately 1500 participated in it. En-route it halted in front of Aiwan-e-Mahmood. There the mullas Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema, Syed Kafil Bukhari, Muhammad Mugira and Ataul Muhamman Bukhari indulged in slander against the Ahmadiyya community and its founder. They invited the residents of Rabwah to embrace Islam.

All the above happened with the permission of authorities – after the promulgation of National Action Plan which aims at zero tolerance against sectarian and extremist organizations. Majlis Ahrar Islam is well-known for its notorious past and its age-old policy of using religion (end-of-prophethood theme) for its political objectives. Ahrar mullas did the country great harm in 1953 and were consequently defanged. They have revived themselves again in league with the Khatme Nabuwwat movement with the hope to gain political clout and share in power if religious bigots manage to prevail in this fragile ‘land of the pure’.

Acid attack on an Ahmadi doctor

**Mayo Hospital, Lahore; December 29, 2014:**

Dr Qazi Munawwar Ahmad was walking towards the parking lot from his clinic at around 6 p.m. The visibility was poor due to fog and darkness. At a street corner somebody threw acid on his face which injured him severely and burnt his jacket. He was rushed to the hospital. He was in great pain as the quantity and acidity was ample resulting in damage to his face.

Acid was thrown on him in the past as well, but he did not shift his clinic; the locals asked him to continue his practice there. He is currently under treatment.

Teachers fired on religious grounds

**Attock; November/December 2014:**

A non-Ahmadi teacher, Tahir Naeemi, said something objectionable in his class of Islamic Studies in Punjab College, Attock. The issue was raised in a leaflet and circulated in the city, and on the internet too with the following statement:

“The punishment for the blasphemer of Prophet (p.b.u.h.) is decapitation. A peaceful protest against the blasphemer of the Prophet (p.b.u.h.), accused Tahir, will start from Fountain Square.”

It was wrongly mentioned that Tahir is from the Ahmadiyya community. Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community took out a rally in Attock city. It covered a distance of 6 kilometers from Attock City to Punjab College on Kamra Road, and chanted slogans against the community. They also created an uproar outside the Punjab College.

Later Tahir offered his explanation to the administration and the police. However, on the basis of this incident, the administration discharged two Ahmadi teachers i.e. Mr. Raheel Anjum (Rawalpindi College of Commerce, Kamra Cantt) and Mr. Ahmad Saeed (Allied
School, Punjab College Attock City) from their jobs. This action makes no sense, except that the denominational identity of the two teachers was considered inconvenient by the administration. If that be so, it is unbecoming wimpish surrender to the bigoted brigade.

**Poisonous sectarian propaganda in Lahore college**

*Shadman, Lahore; December 11, 2014:* The administration of Nobel College, a privately-owned institute, allowed two mullas of Dawat-e-Islami (green turbans) to hold a programme on Khatme Nabuwwat, which was attended by the college administration, teachers and students. During the lecture the mullas showed a picture of the founder of the Ahmadiyya Community and used very insulting language for him; they asked the students to say the same, and they did that. Selected extracts (without reference to the context) were read out from the writings of the Promised Messiah and then insults were hurled against him by mullas followed by the students. The mullas also incited the students against the Ahmadiyya community.

The mullas reportedly had come on a three-day visit. They had a similar program for other colleges.

**Other incidents in Lahore**

- **Gulshan Park; January 18, 2015:** The house of Mr. Arshad Ali Dogar, an Ahmadi, is located in front of the Ahmadiyya mosque here. On 18 January 2015, two unidentified men came there on a motorbike at about 3:15 a.m. They fired 4-5 gunshots at Mr. Dogar’s gate and moved ahead. On the way they fired some gunshots in the air. Then one of them walked back and again fired 4-5 shots at the gate. They departed but came back half an hour later to check the street. The police were informed but they arrived very late and collected the shells from the location.

  The policemen asked Mr. Dogar to come to the police station to file a report. He, however, opted to exercise discretion.

- **Guldasht Town; January 11, 2015:** A retired Superintendent of Police, Zubair Sara held a religious get-together (*Milad*) at his house. Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community used loudspeaker at the occasion and bad-mouthed the community. They propagated hate and violence against the community and told the participants to pull Ahmadis out of their homes and kill them.

- **Jauhar Town; December 18, 2014:** Mr. Umair Riaz went to see a business acquaintance who offered him juice to drink. The juice was mixed with some sort of chloroform. Umair immediately became unconscious, and the villain helped by two men drove him to an unknown location. There, they prepared a video of Umair and demanded Rs 5 million from his family as ransom. Later at one time, only one individual was left there to watch him. Availing the occasion Umair escaped. The kidnappers chased him but he took lift from a motorcyclist and reached home safely.

  The incident was reported to the police.

- **Ravi Clifton Colony, Shahdara Town; January 2014:** Mr. Tahir Ahmad Qureshi runs a school here. A mulla, Zahid Iqbal Naqashbandi, from an adjacent mosque, has mounted a hate campaign against the school and Mr. Qureshi. In his sermons, he uses foul language against the Ahmadiyya community and promotes hate and violence. “Qadianis are apostates, *Kafir* and *Wajib-ul-Qatl,*” he asserts. He tells them not to send their children to the school of ‘Qadianis’.

  A few days ago the mulla had some wall-chalking done on the outer walls of the school against the Ahmadiyya community. The neighbors asked him to stop the hate campaign, and removed the wall-chalking. At the occasion of Eid Milad un Nabi, the whole street was decorated with festoons but the portion in front of Mr. Qureshi
was left void. Thereafter a local took the initiative and filled the gap with paper bunting, at which the mulla called him a Kafir. Mr. Qureshi is worried.

- **Gulshan Ravi:** It would be recalled that in April 2013 mullas aided by the police raided an Ahmadiyya centre here. They carried out this operation jointly, like a team. Ahmadies were arrested, including a woman and a child. Eventually eight Ahmadi men were charged under the blasphemy clause PPC 295-B and an anti-terrorism clause, ATA 11-W – most wrongfully.

  The trial went on for a year. Eventually a good and fair judge acquitted all the accused.

  After the raid, the centre which was also used as residence was sealed by the police. Thus the residents’ car and personal belongings remained locked and were not available to the owner. These were eventually released and the location was rented out (to a non-Ahmadi). The clerics and ill-wishers did not like that and started an agitation that the released building would again be used as a centre. The police sent for both the parties and made the Ahmadis sign an undertaking that the location will not be used as a ‘centre’.

  The agitation is still simmering.

- **Guldasht Town; December 19, 2014:** The brother of Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad, an Ahmadi, was leaving his house when he saw a copy of the Holy Quran and some religious papers in the outer fence of his house. He looked around carefully, picked up the religious material and went inside the house. Fortunately, there was no follow-up by any outsider.

  In the past in similar attempts, Ahmadies had to face malicious accusations.

**Attempt to burn an Ahmadiyya mosque**

- **Attock; January 2015:** On the night of Eid Milad-un-Nabi at around 2:30 a.m. a miscreant set fire to the wooden door of a shop next to the Ahmadiyya mosque and also tried to set on fire the adjacent clinic of an Ahmadi doctor, Hameed Ahmad. On timely arrival of the watchman, rescue services were informed and the fire was extinguished.

  Two days later, on January 06, 2015 the same miscreant again lit fire to that shop but was caught and handed over to the police by the watchman. The evil-doer said to the watchman, “This is a worship center of Qadianis and I have to burn it. I lit the fire the other day and you extinguished it. Today you have caught me; that is very bad of you.”

  The police detained the miscreant and charged him under an anti-terrorism law.

**Job at risk**

- **Lahore; January 2015:** An Ahmadi Mr. Farrukh Ziaur Rahman worked for construction company H.A. Builders. One Arsalan worked there too. He would ask Farrukh questions about Ahmadiyyat and insisted on getting some literature about the Jamaat. At this, Farrukh gave him the book ‘The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam’. After receiving the book Arsalan showed his real colours and began severely opposing Farrukh and incited other workers and the owner of the company against him. In fact he aims at replacing Farrukh in his job. As a result, the workers in the company turned hostile against Ahmadiyyat and say, ‘It is better to eat with a dog than with a Qadiani’. They accused him of blasphemy and proselytizing.

  On January 7, 2015, the owner of the company invited two clerics from the Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jama’at-e-Islami to the company. They were turned on Mr. Farrukh whom they said, “You are an apostate, worthy of being killed, and a blasphemer. We will get you booked under PPC 295-C. You have small children to look after; it would be better for you to leave this place without further delay.”
All this mischief was done by Arsalan to take over Farrukh’s job. He accused Farrukh of hatching plans against the company, preaching Ahmadiyyat and distributing Ahmadiyya literature among co-workers. Arsalan passed on the book given to him by Farrukh to the owner of the company who turned hostile to Farrukh.

Thereafter Farrukh stopped going to work in the company. The Jamaat advised him to remain vigilant about his security and take all necessary precautions for his safety.

**An Ahmadi businessman harassed greatly**

*Civil Quarters, Peshawar; November 24, 2014:* Mr. Bashir Ahmad has a motor workshop here on Peshawar Road. On November 24, 2014 approximately 150 people led by mulla came to his shop. “Talk with us or become a Muslim,” they said in a threatening tone. They entered the workshop and said insulting words about the founder of the community. They also used foul language against the parents of Mr. Ahmad. They took an oath from the workers at the workshop that they will not socialize or have any dealings with him.

As if that was not enough, the local police made inquiries about the workshop and its proprietor. In view of all this, the workshop has been closed for the time being.

Note: This report seems to have missed the office mail, hence the delayed reporting.

**Ahmadi doctor kidnapped**

*Satellite Town, Quetta; December/January 2014/15:* Dr. Muhammad Aslam was kidnapped from his clinic by unknown people on December 30, 2014. He was released later this month. The details of what happened in the episode are not known yet. Mr. Aslam was an active member of the community and was facing severe opposition from his relatives.

**Gravestones damaged by religious thugs**

*Rabwah; January 12, 2015:* Incidents of stoning the gravestones in Rabwah by opponents of the Ahmadiyya community happen quite often. The boys from mulla Allah Yar Arshad’s madrasa indulge in this desecration on the resident mulla’s bidding. On 12 January 2015, these urchins damaged some tombstones by pelting stones on them; it was reported in the daily *Din* of January 14, 2015 as well. The damaged gravestones were shown to the police who were asked to investigate the outrage.

**A terrifying leaflet**

*Johar Town, Lahore; January 2015:* Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community distributed a leaflet named “*Intibah*” (Warning) in the BOR area in Johar Town. This leaflet was thrown at the homes of two Ahmadis, Malik Adnan Ahmad and Rana Arshad. The leaflet published by the Guardians of Khatme Nabuwwat of the ‘Ghazi Mumtaz Qadri Foundation’ contains the following threat:

Sir, you are a human being. You need to understand the difference between good and bad, right and wrong. Bring your life back to the right track. Enter the fold of Islam by believing in the end of the prophethood (P.B.U.H). You and your family should repent your sins and spend the rest of your lives as a Muslim and a lover of the Holy Prophet.

You Qadianis continue to hurt Islam and the Muslims; and you are quite active in this area. If you denounce Qadianiyat and stop performing acts of disbelief in your places of worship, you, your wife and your children will be safe.

It is our final warning to you; otherwise … …!

We solicit your cooperation.

For cooperation and contact:
Ahmadi suffers violence at the hand of mulla

Sadhoki, District Gujranwala; December 29, 2014:

Opponents of the Ahmadiyya community often hold rallies and conferences here and incite the people. They call for the social boycott of Ahmadis. Mr. Faheem Ahmad works here in a medical store. On 29 December 2014, a mulla Ikramullah Rizvi of the local mosque went to the store and asked for a drug. When Mr. Ahmad was asked by the store owner to pass the medicine, the mulla said, “I have told you that I am not going to take medicine from the hand of this Mirzai dog.” Mr. Ahmad replied that he was not going to give him the item either. At this the mulla got furious and started beating Mr. Ahmad. The store owner intervened and the mulla went back only to come back with a gang of acolytes. The shop-owners didn’t allow them entry in the store at which they went back threatening Mr. Ahmad for life.

The incident was reported to the local police. The SHO called both parties to the police station and held the mulla responsible for the disturbance and warned him against a repeat.

In view of the hostile situation and probable violence, Mr. Ahmad decided to shift from Sadhoki.

Quranic verses effaced

Chiniot; December 31, 2014:

Mr. Hafeez Ahmad owns a shop “Hafeez Battery Centre” at the bus-stand in Chiniot. On December 31, 2014, five men came to his shop and asked the staff if the owner was an Ahmadi and lived in Rabwah. The visitors said, “There are Quranic verses written on the shutter of your shop; remove them.” They also took pictures of the interior and exterior of the shop. The shop’s workers asked them about their identity, to which they replied, “We are men of the DCO Chiniot, and we have orders to erase Quranic verses from this shop’s shutter.”

The Quranic verses were written by two battery companies on their posters. These posters are pasted at their outlets for publicity. On the same night, at around 9 p.m. two police vans arrived at the shop. They took the pictures of the displayed Quranic verses, and covered them with black paint.

Had anyone else done that, he would have been accused of desecration and blasphemy.

Minister says Saudi funds destabilized country

The daily Dawn, Lahore published the following news with the above title in its issue of January 21, 2015 (extracts):

ISLAMABAD: A member of the federal cabinet caused a small uproar on Tuesday when he stated publicly that Saudi money had a destructive effect on Pakistan and that the promotion of ideology of Wahabism had destabilized the country.

Riaz Ahmad Peerzada, who is Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination (IPC), minced no words during his talk at the Jinnah Institute’s Ideals Conclave 2015 and also took his own party to task.
…when asked by a reporter to repeat his remarks regarding the Saudi influence in Pakistan, he got riled up and said, “You know very well where the funding comes from. Why do you need me to say it?”

A candid comment by a courageous lady in a confident daily

*Lahore:* Ms. Gul Bokhari wrote an op-ed titled ‘Resolve? hardly…’. And the daily *The Nation* published it on January 4, 2015. It is about the resolve of the state in its war on terror by putting a stop to hate speech and incitement to violence. The op-ed refers specifically to the sectarian outburst of a mulla on GEO TV in a show hosted by Aamir Liaquat Hussain. The mulla stated: Ahmadis were behind the massacre in the school in Peshawar, they are enemy of all of us (Muslims), they promote blasphemy, they cause bloodshed, etc. Extracts:

Resolve? hardly…

…In the unique war against terror that the Pakistan government and military has resolved to fight finally, one might have thought the government machinery would have swung into action to strike at the heart of terror in this country: religion based killings. The state did not have to pass new laws immediately, though there is a need to beef up the punishments to make them harsher, with the severity of the crimes. But no, what did the government do when Dr Amir Liaqat Husain, together with religious hate mongers (also known as Ulama whom Hussain invites regularly to his show)? It got PEMRA to issue a mealy mouthed notice to Geo. And I shall reproduce parts of it below word for word:

…This is the mealy mouthed notice an arm of the government issued to Geo News, without indicting the host of the show or, directly, the channel itself. This is the commitment of the government to rooting out terror permanently, it neither dared name the molvis preaching hatred against the Ahmadis, citizens of this country, nor named the host of the show, nor lay blame directly on the channel for having done this repeatedly and having got Ahmadi persons killed in this country.

And aside from this media law which deals with penalties, the government cravenly failed to bring criminal charges against all concerned in this act of terrorism. Indeed, one person has already been killed as a result of this programme. But all the sections of the penal code that the government could have used to book the criminals involved in this incidence were never used.

Right to life is surely more fundamental than the right to spew hate and incite violence and murder?

The first thing the government ought to have done was to book the molvis, the host and the audience under the readily available sections of the penal code. Together, all the codes mentioned earlier cover spreading religious strife, abetment, incitement of violence etc. However, the PML-N government is happy to hide behind PEMRA ordinance and military courts. If it really meant to do justice to the Peshawar APS victims, and all other victims of religious extremists, it would have shown its resolve by indicting the beasts preaching killings openly on national television.

I am sorry – but they have shown anything but sincerity with this act.

Hate campaign in Jhelum

*January 2015:* Malik Saleem, a firebrand mulla, has acquired a fatwa from a cleric in Bhera, according to which wedlock of one who has any dealing with Ahmadis stands null and void and he is no longer a Muslim. He has distributed copies of this edict in the whole city, and is also spreading hate verbally. Amir Liaqat Husain’s program telecasted last month on GEO TV, against Ahmadis, has helped Salim to rev up his hateful drive. A campaign is underway in the city’s bazaars and squares to isolate Ahmadis. They accuse Ahmadis of being anti-Muslims, going astray and making false claims.
Hateful conferences in District Gujranwala

Qayyampur Virkan: Three conferences (Jalsas) were held here in the month of January. These are reported below in brief:

January 02, 2015: A conference was held in the Ahle Sunnat wal Jamaat mosque by the Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat. A mulla Shams-ud-din was invited for the conference, which was widely advertised in the city through posters and banners. Ahmadies informed the police before the conference, so they called the local mulla to the police station. The police took a written undertaking from the mulla that no speech would be made against any sect and they will not use loudspeaker. In clear violation on both counts, the opponents used the loudspeaker and Shams-ud-din used filthy language against the Ahmadiyya community. He took oath from the audience to socially boycott the Ahmadis. He also incited them against local Christians.

January 07, 2015: Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat held gatherings against the Ahmadiyya community at two different locations here. Posters were pasted in the area for publicity. One gathering took place at the Jamia Masjid after the sunset prayer and the second was held at Ground Wali mosque after Isha prayer. Maulvi Abdul Kareem Sheikhupuri presided on both occasions. The topic for both the assemblies was “Life of Jesus”, but Mulla Kareem indulged in hateful diatribe against the founder of the Ahmadiyya community and used abusive language against the community. At the end of his speeches he took on oath from all the participants to completely boycott the community and said, “Whosoever will not boycott the Qadianis or will keep any contact with them will be excluded from Faith and the marriage bonds of such people will be null and void.” They also used loudspeaker which is prohibited.  
Note: The above took place despite an official campaign against sectarian and extremist activities.

Ahmadiyya centres on terrorists hit-list  
Ahmadis have learnt from reliable sources that terrorists plan to hit Ahmadi personnel and centres in Rabwah, Lahore and Rawalpindi. The authorities know about this and have been advised by agencies to take appropriate action to ensure security in this regard.  
It appears that the logic behind such plans is the same as that in Peshawar school attack and bomb explosion in Shikarpur Imambargah. 
Ahmadiyya community itself has also taken whatever action is possible to prevent such an attack. The risk however is considerable, and it is cause for concern and anxiety.

Hostile moves against an Ahmadi

Jhangar Hakim Wala, District Nankana; December 2014: Anti-Ahmadiyya activists have become overly active here and are harassing the Ahmadis greatly. An Ahmadi, Mr. Bilal Saif who was deported from Sri Lanka, is specifically targeted. A few incidents are reported below.

- On December 6, 2014, Saif went to a sports club for exercise. On seeing him some young men used foul language against the community and pushed him out of the club.
- Mr. Saif went to a medical store to buy some medicines. A mulla of the Khatme Nabuwwat faction present there abused him. The pharmacist asked Mr. Saif to leave – without medicine.
- Some motorcyclists stopped him on the way to his home and warned, “Desist from your activities, otherwise you will lose your life.”
One day, Mr. Saif was going somewhere with his uncle on a motorbike when some members of the Khatme Nabuwwat organization stopped them on Warburton Road in front of Punjab Hotel and abused him. They also shouted life threats to Mr. Saif and his uncle, and warned them not to use that road in future.

Note: Some other Ahmadis in the town have faced similar incidents in the past few weeks, which is a cause for great concern, as such situations tend to deteriorate and become life-threatening.

**A press report on a state-owned college in Rabwah**

*Lahore; January 11, 2015:* The daily ‘Pakistan’ published a report on the security situation of a girls’ college in Rabwah. We provide below its translation, and make no comment.

**Government shows no interest in providing protection to minorities**

*Blind watchman is appointed in girls college. This is declared ‘the safest hide-out for terrorists’.*

*Chenab Nagar:* (Correspondent) Government shows no interest in providing protection to minorities; blind watchman is appointed in Girls College which is declared as an extremely vulnerable site. According to the information, 13-point agenda was circulated to tighten the security of educational institutes in the country, after the Peshawar tragedy. Government Taleem ul Islam College and Government Jamia Nusrat Girls College of Chenab Nagar have been declared as extremely sensitive places. Orders were issued to re-open the college after clearance report of the Special Branch. But it is shocking that there are two roads adjacent to the Girls College and it is easy to enter the college by climbing up the outer walls. Derelict college buildings built in 1952 provide an ideal platform to terrorists for making trenches. These buildings have been declared as the most dangerous and unusable for the last 10 year by the buildings department. These include the principal’s residence, girls’ hostel, dispensary and other structures. Wild growth and trees inside the college have covered it in such a way that it looks like an island. According to the college administration, letters about the demolition of these buildings were written to the Provincial Government, the Building Department and the Director Colleges many times, however, till today they have not paid any attention. Two watchmen are appointed in this girls college for day time and night duty. But it is shocking that the person who performs night duty is blind. Ninety percent of the male appointments including the clerk, office boy and others remain vacant. In these circumstances, this government college located in minority area is entirely unsafe and needs the government’s attention.

**Aggressive bigotry in the open – in Rawalpindi**

*Rawalpindi; January 16, 2015:* Mr. Iftikhar Ahmad was on his way to the Ahmadiyya mosque on his motorbike. The road was blocked for a non-Ahmadiyya religious congregation at Chaur Square on Peshawar Road. He got through a space left for cyclists. When he was about to enter the street of the mosque, a mulla who was standing there asked him, “Are you going to the mosque of Mirzais?” to which he replied that he was going to visit a friend, and went ahead. The mulla came to the mosque, looked around and then went back to the congregation. He had a beard and carried a string of beads (*Tasbih*).

**Mulla justifies his crime**

*Rawalpindi:* Authorities are active at places to implement the National Action Plan promulgated after the Peshawar tragedy. The daily Ausaf published a report in this context on January 17, 2015 (translated extract):

“(Sources have reported that) In Rawalpindi the police raided different book shops and detained some persons for keeping literature pertaining to Qadianis. The Alami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat expressed their concern in this regard stating that the (anti-)Qadiani literature is not an issue...”
as it is (published) only in pursuance of government decision that declared Qadianis to be a non-Muslim minority."

**Ahmadis behind bars**

1. The police registered a fabricated case under Anti-terrorism clause ATA 8/11 and PPC 295-A a blasphemy clause, against Mr. Aqib Saleem with FIR no. 553/14 in Police Station Peoples Colony, Gujranwala on July 28, 2014. Bail denied, he is still in prison.

2. A baseless case was registered against four Ahmadis, Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad, Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhupura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in police station Sharaqpur. Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassa student while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. The remaining three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. They are in prison. Their bails were cancelled.

**From the media**

**Ahmadis running from pillar to post to return to their homes**

*Chenab Nagar: Unidentified persons pelt stones on graveyard. Tombstones damaged.*

**Qadiani family converts to Islam**

**Street lights off; Chenab Nagar plunges in darkness**

*(Rabwah) Nusrat Girls College declared extremely vulnerable for little security*

**Search operation commences in Chenab Nagar against hate material. DPO orders scrutiny of book-depots and printing presses.**

**Security of Eid Milad processions ensured in Chenab Nagar**

**People (Ahmadis) forbidden to be on their roofs en-route**

**World leaders join million-plus Paris march (against terrorism)**

**Magazine (Charlie Hebdo, French) publishes more controversial images**

**US dailies refuse to print (blasphemous) sketches**

**Merkel vows to fight bigotry after anti-Islam march**

**2000 slain in (Boko Haram) attack on Nigerian town**

**Obama’s parting shot: Religious intolerance can stall India’s progress**

**Saudi blogger lashed in public for insulting Islam**

**Obama cancels Taj trip, to visit Riyadh**
Qadianiat is the worst evil (fitna) in the world: Maulana Abdul Hafiz Makki (IKNM)
The daily Islam; Lahore, January 10, 2015

These institutions (Qadianis’ schools and colleges) are training centres of terrorism: Central Deputy Amir International Khatme Nabuwwat Movement (mulla Shabbir Usmani)
The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 3, 2015

Suicide bombing in Shikarpur Imambargah; 57 worshippers dead, more than 55 injured
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 3, 2015

Jamia Hafsa students invite IS leader to Pakistan
The daily Jinnah; Lahore, January 31, 2015

95 banned groups active in Punjab
The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 15, 2015

French news agency photojournalist wounded during IJT protest near consulate (in Karachi)
The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 17, 2015

Wah bomber was Lal Masjid student
The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 23, 2015

Rawalpindi suicide bomber was a Lal Masjid student
The daily Aman; Faisalabad, January 24, 2015

Five condemned accused in attack on Imambargah case acquitted (by LHC)
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 6, 2015

151 booked under Amplifier Act
The daily The News; Lahore, January 20, 2015

Jamaat Dawa and Jamaat Islami agree on joint efforts against blasphemous sketches
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 30, 2015

Government admits 80 madrasas receive foreign funds
Saudi Arabia, UAE, Iran, Qatar, Bahrain and US contribute
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 30, 2015

They (6 mullas of IKNM) severely condemned those who hold madrasas responsible for terrorism and said that madrasas and mosques are citadels of peace.
Abdul Hafeez Makki, Ahmad Ali Siraj, Ilyas Chinioti, Zahid Mahmud Qasmi, Shabbir Usmani and Muhammad Qadri’s joint statement
The daily Pakistan; Lahore, January 20, 2015

Muslims worldwide desire a change, but there is no leader: Ataul Momin Bokhari (Ahrar)
The daily Islam; Lahore, January 12, 2015

If Mumtaz Qadri comes to any harm, the rulers will lose the power. Killing Salman Taseer was justified. Attempts to block the way of religious lobby will be made futile: Awais Noorani (of JUP)
The daily Ummat; Karachi, January 9, 2015

(Mumtaz) Qadri’s legal team outnumbers police presence at IHC
...Inside court premises, defense lawyers assembled under the leadership of Khawaja Mohammad Sharif, former Chief Justice of Lahore High Court (LHC). Another former LHC judge, Mian Nazir Akhtar was also part of Qadri’s panel.
The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 28, 2015

We’ll not sit peacefully so long as there is even one terrorist in the country: Nawaz Sharif (PM)
The daily Jang; Lahore, January 14, 2015

Raid on madrassahs should be stopped: Khatme Nabuwwat Conference
The daily Aman; Faisalabad, January 7, 2015

Madrassahs are the guardians of Pakistan ideology and geography: Sirajul Haq (JI)
The daily Pakistan; Lahore, January 4, 2015
I used to get Rs. 5000/- for each murder: Stirring disclosure by a target-killer

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 22, 2015

Governor Punjab resigns: Tyranny and injustice is on the increase; Mafia (Qabza Group) is active in Punjab; Justice is weak and the country is truth deficient – Ch Sarwar

The daily The News; Lahore, January 16, 2015

Pope says there are ‘limits’ to freedom of speech. If a good friend speaks badly of my mother, he can expect to get punched, and that’s normal.

The daily The News; Lahore, January 30, 2015

Maulana Fazal ur Rehman is political spokesman of Taliban: Sunni Itihad Council
Some madrassahs are engaged in terrorism. The innocent should not feel frightened over military courts.

The time has come to bring all supporters of terrorists to justice: Chairman Sahibzada Hamid Raza

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 10, 2015

Not gun, but book will bring about change: Sirajul Haq (JI)

The daily Al-Sharaq; Lahore, January 21, 2015

Pakistan has lost a friend in King Abdulla (of S. Arabia): Qari Shabbir Usmani (of IKNM)

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, January 25, 2015

Madrassahs should not be linked with terrorism: Imran Khan addresses Ulama Mashaikh conference (in Islamabad)

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, January 29, 2015

Sectarian literature and CD shops should be closed forthwith

Chief Minister (Punjab) orders strong action against illegal use of loud speakers, provocative speeches and wall-chalking.

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, January 8, 2015

The capital city (Lahore) police claimed to have registered 269 cases and made 58 arrests in connection with the ongoing crackdown on elements involved in fanning provocative speeches, distributing hate literature, wall-chalking and misusing loudspeakers.

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 12, 2015

Sharif govt has failed to protect religious freedoms: HRW

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 30, 2015

Leaders of Aalami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat call on Mr. Mohsin Bilal, group editor of the daily Ausaf

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 1, 2015

Pakistan wants end to Saudi funding to banned outfits. Interior Minister meets Saudi ambassador.

The daily The News; Lahore, January 15, 2015

Nine held after three Muslims burnt alive in India

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 20, 2015

Editor among 12 killed in attack on Paris weekly

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 8, 2015

550 women from Western Europe arrive in Syria and Iraq to join IS

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, January 29, 2015

Shujaat (Q League) and (mulla) Hanif Jallandhry agree to mount joint defence against anti-madrassah conspiracies

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 6, 2015

PAT urges Fazl (JUI) to ‘stop supporting terrorism’

The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 24, 2015

Parliament adopts military courts
Lawmakers unanimously approve 21st constitutional Amendment. JI, JUI-F MP’s abstain
The daily The Nation; Lahore, January 7, 2015
Go Imran Go slogans and intense protest by relatives of martyrs on Chairman PTI’s visit to AP School
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 15, 2015
MQM buries 7 slain workers
The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 15, 2015
Three including Musharraf indicted in Akbar Bugti murder case
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, January 15, 2015
Attacks on Ahmadis: TTP Punjab operative gets death sentence
The daily The News; Lahore, January 18, 2015
Incremental cost of military’s Zarb-i-Azab operation in North Waziristan and its fallout at least Rs 110 bn this fiscal year: Finance Minister
The daily Dawn; Lahore, January 14, 2015
Saudi Mufti Azam, Sheikh Abdul Aziz calls Eid Milad-un-Nabi celebrations a Bid’at
The daily Insaf; Lahore, January 4, 2015

Op-ed: The litmus test
…Pakistan was not created in the name of Islam. This a historical lie fed to us and is the basic issue with the imagination of Pakistan as a nation state. Pakistan was created because the two main representative parties in the subcontinent could not agree on the constitution of a united India.

…Another outrage against the Hazaras is completely unacceptable. No Shia doctor or scholar should be killed with impunity in the future. The Auqaf department of the Punjab government should stop funding conventions of hate-filled mullahs calling for the killing of Ahmadis.

Not only should the state ensure that there is no incitement in any of the content, it should also ensure that hate speech of all kinds is mercilessly put down. No doubt, this has implications for freedom of speech, but worse than no freedom of speech is selective freedom of speech. The freedom to abuse minority groups like the Ahmadis is a case of selective freedom of speech because Ahmadis are forbidden even from defending themselves. The same applies across the board. I would rather that there be no hate speech than partial freedom of speech.

Y.L. Hamdani in the Daily Times; Lahore, January 12, 2015

Book mark: The Politics of Religion
Every aspect of the Pakistani state, society, politics and culture worth noting today bears the scars of the 11 years of martial law under General Ziaul Haq from 1977 to 1988, Pakistan’s longest and most brutal military dictatorship.

…Similarly, Bhutto contributed to the growing religiosity by appeasing vested Islamist interests in order to secure his hold on power, he banned alcohol and officially designated members of the Ahmadiyya sect as non-Muslims. This was to damage the secular social fabric of the Pakistani state irreparably and, ironically, was undertaken by an individual brought to power on a socialist, populist, almost liberal agenda.

The State of Islam; Saadia Toor quoted in the monthly Newsline of December 2014

Op-ed: Extremists behind the shield of religion
…Punjab can be cleansed of criminals and extremists by the joint effort of intelligence agencies and the police. That means, if law-enforcement departments are given a
free hand they can produce results. The state can surely neutralize extremists, without fear. However, we should not forget that such people were lifted before as well, however they were released, if not weeks, months later.

...The Peshawar tragedy shook up the people. However, it is still possible that extremist elements would attract common man’s sympathies, for they talk religion. Who will object to their position on blasphemy or religion? The problem is that extremists hide behind the shield of religion. We must be clear in that extremism is more dangerous than terrorism, as the former does not directly undertake violence and thereby escapes state action. 

...We should never forget that ideology can spread very fast. Such (extremist) elements have the capability to gain public sympathy by agitating sensitive issues, while the state and society watch helplessly, and this group will succeed in forming a state within state. There is no simple solution. If the state is unable to achieve two objects 1. separation of politics from religion 2. these elements are not foreign – they are product of our own society, but we must fight them, even then we got to stop their thought polluting the society.

Ayesha Siddiqa in the daily Mashriq, January 30, 2015

Op-ed: Imposing faith

It is time to fight and take back at least some space that we have, over the last 30 odd years, ceded to self-proclaimed religious authorities, or interpretations of religion to oppress others. If this means taking some risk, so be it. After the Peshawar tragedy, we do not have many options left. Either we stand up and be counted or we remain on our knees – and still die. For most people, I hope, the former is the path they choose.

...A crime that has an economic network behind it is an established crime. When the establishment of a crime comes in our vision, the economics behind it must be found. Until the economics behind the crime is addressed, the crime will not go away.

Peshawar was an unprecedented tragedy in the history of a young nation that has seen more than its share of tragedies. We have had more than 50,000 victims of terrorism. But even then we were shocked by the brutality of what happened on December 16. There has been a lot of talk since then, by government, politicians and the army leadership that this was a watershed moment. We wait and see.

Will state institutions stand with the people and against any and all forms of bigotry, extremism and lack of tolerance? Will the state help society recover spaces that have been ceded over the last 30 odd years? Will the state correct some of the worst mistakes we have made: imposing faith and certain versions of it on all people including students, allowing madrassahs to get away with anything and making society cower in fear whenever the spectre of faith is raised?

The early signs are not of hope: the lack of movement against Abdul Aziz, against Geo and Amir Liaquat, and lack of response to the murder of a citizen of Ahmadi faith. But if we do not move now, more Peshawars will be waiting for us.

Faisal Bari in the daily Dawn of January 2, 2015

Annex: The pamphlet ‘Intebah’ and its translation
.Brand آپ کی آنکر نہ کریں، مچھر نہ ہوایں کو کچھ دیکھ و نہ کھیا کچھ ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ نہ ہو آئے۔

اور ہوم سے ہی کھڑی ہو جائیں، کہ سسے جانے ہوائی کے ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ کے اپنے ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ

کو ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ کو کھڑی ہو جائیں، کہ سسے جانے ہوائی کے ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ کے اپنے ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ

آپ پہلی تھیں۔ اسلام کو ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ کو کھڑی ہو جائیں، کہ سسے جانے ہوائی کے ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ

ام کا پہلا تھیں۔ اسلام کو ہوائی کا ہوائی رامپ کو کھڑی ہو جائیں، کہ سسے جانے ہوائی کے ہوائی رامپ

سہولت ہو کے

جاری طرف سے آپ کے لیے بھی نئی خبریں وارننگ پہ

ورنر...! 

آپ کا گول ہے، آپ کا گول ہے، آپ کا گول ہے...!

0322 4144910
0321 9993161

(Translation overleaf)
Translation of the pamphlet “Intebah”

(Bullets in the logo of this Khatme Nabuwwat organisation are noteworthy)

(Posted in Lahore after the promulgation of National Action Plan)

"Muhafizan-e-Khatme-e-Nabuwwat Pakistan [Guardians of the End of Prophethood (pbuh)]"

‘I am the Seal of the Prophets: and there is no Prophet after me.’

(WARNING)

Sir, you are a human being. You need to understand the difference between good and bad, right and wrong. Bring your life back to the right track. Enter the fold of Islam by believing in the end of the prophethood (P.B.U.H). You and your family should repent your sins and spend the rest of your lives as a Muslim and a lover of the Holy Prophet.

You Qadianis continue to hurt Islam and the Muslims; and you are quite active in this area. If you denounce Qadianiyat and stop performing acts of disbelief in your places of worship, you, your wife and your children will be safe.

It is our final warning to you; otherwise … …!

We solicit your cooperation.

For cooperation and contact:

# 0322-4144910

# 0321-9993161

Those who work against the mischief of Mirzaat are backed by the Holy Prophet, peace be upon him.

We shall lay down our lives to protect the honour of the Holy Master. We shall kill one who is guilty of blasphemy against the Holy Prophet.

Ghazi Mumtaz Qadri Foundation

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