

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

Monthly Report

April 2019

The year of declining human rights

Farhatullah Babar

“... Noting Pakistan’s commitment to the international bodies to “firmly uphold, promote and safeguard universal human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,” the (HRCP) report expresses concern over dismal disconnect between promise and performance.

...

In the realm of freedom of thought, conscience and religion, the report has noted “no noticeable abatement” in violence against religious minorities.

During the year the Islamabad High Court ruled that all citizens should be identified by their faith and applicants for government jobs should declare their faith for eligibility. As a result, NADRA has amended the CNIC form to make it mandatory for an Ahmadi to declare himself as ‘non-Muslim.’ Atif Mian was sacked from the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) following a backlash over his faith. ...”

(Farhatullah Babar in the Friday Times; April 19-25, 2019)

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Another title authored by the Ahmadiyya founder recommended to be banned

Lahore; March 29, 2019: The daily Pakistan, online, published a report that the Chairman Mutahidda Ulama Board, Allama Tahir Mahmud Ashrafi has sent his recommendation to the Home Department, the Auqaf Department and the CTD Punjab that the book *Kashti Nooh* (Noah's Ark) be confiscated forthwith and its publication and distribution be stopped.

This book was authored by the founder of the Ahmadiyya community in 1902 during the Raj. It contains fairly detailed description of his teachings and is thus of prime value and standing for the members of the Ahmadiyya community. The work does address the virulent and unfair attacks on Islam and its Holy Prophet (PBUH) by some leading clerics of other faiths, and as rebuttal shows them the mirror through quotations from their own scriptures and narratives. It is indeed a classic work and is of great value for the researchers as well as the disciples.

The Ulama Board, when accused of curbing the religious freedom of Ahmadis takes the line that it has also banned numerous publications produced by clerics of other denominations. This excuse is malafide and hollow as those publications were authored by subsequent scholars and mullas, while the books produced by Mirza Sahib are of nearly scriptural value to Ahmadis. The Ulama Board dare not recommend a ban on even *Sahih Bokhari* (of Sunnies) or *Nehjul Balagha* (of Shias). We quote below briefly the story of one similar ban on the Ahmadiyya TAZKARAH, by the Punjab Mutahidda Ulama Board, to show the prejudice and bigotry in play in such anti-Ahmadi recommendations.

The Home Department Punjab, vide its Notification no. SO(IS-III)6-15/2010 dated 25th June, 2014 “banned, and to be forfeited

wherever found,” a book titled TAZKARAH ‘authored’ by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani, on grounds that “the Government of the Punjab is satisfied that (the) book contain (sic) material which is treasonable and seditious in nature (and...) prejudicial to national integration”. This calls for a little explanation.

This book TAZKARAH is a compendium of Ahmad's dreams, visions and revelations. He died in 1908, forty years before Pakistan came into being. Till 1908, Pakistan scheme had not surfaced, its name was not even suggested. Someone may ask the Ulama Board and the government of the Punjab of 2014 as to how do they justify their reasoning that the pre-1908 dreams etc are treasonable and seditious to the Pakistani state. Obviously the reasons quoted are fabrications, even ridiculous.

The ban on TAZKARAH is maintained intact by the present government of the Punjab despite the fact that Pakistan has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) whose Article 19.2 lays down:

“Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice.”

We understand that the mullas of the Punjab Ulama Board might never have bothered to read the ICCPR, but the high officials of the provincial government must have known of this international covenant and obligation and are expected to convey to the Board that they will not be allowed to bring disrepute to Pakistan through violations of its international treaty obligations.

Ahmadiyya marriage ceremony impaired by mullas

Jhuddo Naukot, District Mirpur Khas; March 14, 2019: Mr. Altaf Ahmad an Ahmadi's

daughter's wedding was scheduled on March 14, 2019. The marriage party had come from Green Town, Karachi. The reception was arranged at a marriage hall named "Hareem Hall" in Jhuddo. When the wedding feast was at the end, mullas came in numbers and told the hall owner to get the hall vacated of those Ahmadis forthwith. Under pressure from the mullas the owner expressed his helplessness and asked for the evacuation of the hall. Ahmadis had to comply and the wedding party had to shift to the bride's residence where farewell formalities took place.

Ahmadi's livelihood at risk

Gujranwala; April 1, 2019: Mr. Asif Waheed has been working for a cargo company NCCS for the last five years in Lahore. He was living in a room next to his office alongwith five non-Ahmadi co-workers. On March 11, after Mr. Waheed had gone to his office his roommate Khawar told the other roommates about Mr. Waheed's bed sheet that "Allah" seemed to be written on it. Khawar told others that Mr. Waheed had thus committed blasphemy. He reported the matter to the company admin who asked the area manager to investigate. The area manager sent for Mr. Waheed and told him that the staff was enraged. He told him to arrange his residence somewhere else. Mr. Waheed showed him that the bed sheet print carried no "Allah" written anywhere on it. He told the area manager that if he was not supported he would have to go home. "It is up to you", the manager said and didn't show any inclination to suppress the non-issue. Mr. Waheed had to shift to his personal residence. After that Mr. Waheed made several calls to the area manager, with no positive outcome. He was told to have it sorted out at the office. Mr. Waheed is concerned about the risk involved in showing up at the office in these circumstances.

Post-election harassment of Ahmadi leadership

Rabwah: Elections for the national and provincial assemblies were held on July 25, 2018. These were based on 'joint electorate' system; however Ahmadis were made an exception in that a separate voting list was prepared for them. Also, the voter form carried a space and a sworn affidavit whereby they would have to disassociate themselves from their Holy Prophet (peace be on him). This is unacceptable to them. Accordingly, these elections were boycotted by Ahmadis and an announcement to that effect was published in two newspapers.

Over this, Ahmadi-bashers moved writs in various courts accusing Ahmadis of 'treason' against the Constitution.

A writ petition was made in the court of Session Judge Lahore. The court dismissed it.

Another writ was moved against Ahmadi Director of Public Affairs and also the Director General, in the court of Addl. Session Judge (ASJ) Lalian. The court directed the police to report on the issue. The police did not support the author, so this case was also dismissed.

The petitioner thereafter appealed to Lahore High Court against the decision of the ASJ. A single judge upheld his decision. The petitioner challenged this decision in Intra-Court appeal of LHC. He named the Ahmadi leader, ASJ Lalian, DSP Chenab Nagar, SHO Chenab Nagar, and Chief Editor daily Abtak as respondents. The case was heard on April 4, 2019. The court dismissed the appeal, in view of the police report, ASJ Lalian verdict and the judgment of the single judge LHC.

To be an Ahmadi and live in peace in Pakistan, his own motherland, is not facile.

Ulema Council vows to launch campaign against extremism

Islamabad; April 15, 2019: The daily Dawn published a report with the above headline. We reproduce below extracts of the same for record and follow-up:

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) announced on Sunday that it will launch a countrywide campaign for eradication of terrorism, extremism and sectarian violence while the fourth International Message of Islam Conference urged the government to ensure implementation on the National Action Plan against terrorism in letter and spirit.

The conference was organized by the PUC in the honour of visiting Imam-i-Ka'aba Sheikh Abdullah Awad Al Juhany and presided over by President Arif Alvi.

A resolution adopted at the conference underlined that no organization or individual would be allowed to do politics on the issue of finality of Prophethood.

The conference pointed out that Islam is a religion of peace, tolerance and forbearance which has nothing to do with terrorism, extremism and sectarian violence. "Elements responsible for fanning these evils are enemies of Islam and Muslims."

The conference condemned events in Europe and the US relating to hatred against Muslims and Islam and feared that the attacks on mosques in the US, UK and other European countries would sabotage the efforts for interfaith dialogue and harmony.

It praised the role of New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and hoped that the world leadership would learn from her and eradicate terrorism and extremism from the globe.

President Arif Alvi said the world community should realize that no community or followers of any religion could be suppressed for a long time. "The day is not far off when people of Kashmir and

Palestine will get rid of atrocities of Israel and India," he added.

The above are fine words and remind one of the need to note and ameliorate the plight of Ahmadis in Pakistan. Sound principles and policies do not make exceptions; fair ideas should be applied across the board to make an impact. Let's see if the observations made by the Ulama Karam in the presence of the Imam Ka'aba and the President of Pakistan are brought to bear on the situation of religiously marginalized groups in the country.

Ordeal of an Ahmadi averted

Chak 5/3L, District Jhang; March 16, 2019:

Mr. Mubashir Ahmad Tanveer saw a Khatme Nabuwat (End of Prophethood) ad outside a local store. He took it off and burnt it in a nearby furnace. Locals got incited over it. The police detained Mr. Tanveer and put him behind bars. The villagers protested angrily and demanded his expulsion from the village. On intervention of a local politician the communal situation got stable, and Mr. Tanveer returned to his home. It is worth mentioning that Mr. Tanveer is not mentally stable; hence the mishap.

Anti-Ahmadiyya campaign in the vernacular press – 2018

Rabwah: Pakistan allows fair amount of freedom of press but not to Ahmadis. Ahmadis' daily and periodicals have been banned by the Punjab government on recommendation of the Mutahidda Ulama Board. However, the vernacular press is at liberty to print plenty of hate material against the marginalized community. Press Section of the Ahmadiyya central office has issued its annual report on the role of vernacular press in anti-Ahmadiyya campaign. The report shows no improvement whatsoever in the policy and conduct of the Urdu press in this regard as compared to previous years.

During 2018 Pakistani Urdu press continued to publish one-sided and hateful anti-Ahmadi stories. As many as 2389 anti-Ahmadi propaganda news-items and 300 articles were published in the papers published in the Punjab. It is the responsibility of the media not to spread hate against any particular group in society, and if there is a negative report or an article published against one party, the viewpoint of the targeted party should also be obtained and published. But, no newspaper spares space for the Ahmadiyya response or viewpoint. The daily *Ausaf* (editor: Mehtab Khan) as usual stood first by publishing 440 anti-Ahmadiyya news and 71 hateful articles, while the daily *Nawa-i-Waqt* (editor: Rameeza Majeed Nizami) stood second by publishing 333 news items and 35 articles. The daily *Dunya* (editor: Mian Amir Mahmood) stood third by printing 201 anti-Ahmadiyya news and 19 articles.

Translation of some sample 'news' is produced below:

Qadianis are always ready to harm Pakistan:
Abdul Latif Khalid

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, September 18, 2018

Qadianiat is an international conspiracy against Islam ... : Pir Ateequr Rahman

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, February 17, 2018

Jewish lobby is using Qadianis for their condemnable objectives: Haji Abdul Ghafoor Rahmani

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, October 15, 2018

Qadianiat is a grave threat to humanity ... : Majlis Ahrar Islam

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, July 7, 2018

Blasphemy is the worst type of terrorism, and Qadianis are involved in it: Qari Ayub Chinioti

The daily Express; Faisalabad, August 19, 2018

Qadianis, Israel and India are one against Pakistan; Army Chief should take note.

The daily Ausaf; Lahore, September 8, 2018

Qadianis are traitors to Islam, the government should not employ them: Adnan Farooq

The daily 92 News; Lahore, September 8, 2018

Bhutto is a End of Prophethood martyr. The US and Qadianis got him killed: Mumtaz Awan

The daily din; Lahore, September 10, 2018

Qadiani drink popular with PTI candidates; PTI candidates for NA and PA drink Shezan to quench thirst: Ilyas Chinioti

The daily Islam; Lahore, September 10, 2018

Misaq-e-Pakistan declaration

Sada Salamat Pakistan Forum held a national conference 'for the promotion of peace and tolerance in the country' on March 27, 2019 in



Islamabad. Various political, religious, social circles participated in the conference and adopted a resolution titled "Misaq-e-Pakistan". It states that every Pakistani is entitled to religious and ideological freedom. No creed could be imposed on anyone; non-state armed groups could not be allowed, and action against them under the National Action Plan was supported. Production and dissemination of hateful material should be banned, on social media, etc.

Opposition Senate leader Senator Raja Zafar ul Haq (PML-N) was a keynote speaker who said that the Muslims of the entire world have to be united; he condemned the occupation of Golan Heights in Syria by Israel. He also denounced the role of USA in this regard.

Ramesh Kumar, a PTI's MNA, said that we should promote tolerance and brotherhood within the country and that we should celebrate all religious festivals together, according to the vision of the Quaid-e-Azam.

Maulana Ghafoor Haideri was also there. He asserted that Islam promotes tolerance and fraternity.

Such conferences are very good to hold, but there is a lot of difference between the words and actions of our elite. The remarkable judgment of 2014 by the Supreme Court of Pakistan and the National Action Plan of the same year still await action. It is heartening to read moderate words from Raja Zafarul Haq who on the ground is rabidly anti-Ahmadiyya. How can a people be called moderate if their minorities are not safe? Here we reproduce only his performance on anti-Ahmadiyya front as sample to spotlight the hypocrisy of a large section of our elite: (courtesy of www.thepersecution.org)

Raja Zafarul Haq was born in District Rawalpindi of the Punjab in 1935. He grew up to be a lawyer by profession but was not a great success in this field. He developed anti-Ahmadiyya prejudices early in his career and was a gratis defense counsel for Aslam Qureshi, a lift operator, who carried out a criminal assault with dagger in 1970 on Mr. M. M. Ahmad, a prominent Ahmadi and an Advisor to the President of Pakistan. Later, the Raja switched over to politics and flourished in this field during the dictatorial regime of General Zia. He was appointed a Federal Minister from 1981-85. When in the Federal Cabinet, he played an active role in preparation of the notorious Anti-Ahmadiyya Ordinance XX, and helped General Zia in opening floodgates of persecution and tyranny against the Ahmadiyya community. He also announced in 1984 a 7-point plan whereby all the Muslim countries were to form a united front to strive for the eradication of Ahmadiyyat (*Pakistan Times*, 12 May 1984). He also had an anti-Ahmadiyya compendium issued by the government. All this resulted in a spate of serious violations of Human Rights not only in Pakistan but also in some other Muslim countries. During the 1985 elections, he failed to win a seat in the National Assembly, so he was appointed an ambassador to Egypt. Thereafter he was appointed advisor to the dictator.

After Zia's death in a plane crash, Raja Zafarul Haq has been in the political limelight only when the Muslim League (N) was in power in Islamabad. ... Mr. Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, appointed him Federal Minister of Religious Affairs and Minorities from 1997 to 1999. According to a press report, Raja Zafarul Haq told a visiting delegation of mullas: 'Qadianis (Ahmadis) are enemies of both Pakistan and Islam; they are worse than Jews'. He also informed them that a master plan was being prepared to negate Ahmadi propaganda abroad concerning their persecution' (*The Daily Jang*, 5 September 1997). This statement subsequently was not disowned by him, thereby admitting it as his and the Ministry's position. He has been elected senator in 1991, 1997, 2009 and 2015.

More recently, at the end of 2017, Raja Zafarul Haq played a leading role in parliamentary process whereby Ahmadis were denied 'forever' participation in national elections. The Prime Minister chose him to chair the Committee that was appointed to investigate and assign responsibility as to who initially facilitated the draft that placed Ahmadis on the joint electoral role.

Our elite should know that the people will not respond sincerely to their assertions unless they are themselves sincere to their statements. Hypocrisy has been in vogue for decades; only concrete and visible action across the board in support of Freedom of Religion or Belief will provide credibility to sermons on Islamic tolerance and fraternity.

Ahmadis behind bars

1. A contrived case was registered against four Ahmadis, Mr. Khalil Ahmad, Ghulam Ahmad, Ihsan Ahmad and Mubashir Ahmad of Bhoiwal, District Sheikhpura under PPCs 295-A, 337-2 and 427 on May 13, 2014 in Police Station Sharaqpur. Two days later Mr. Khalil Ahmad was murdered by a madrassah student, while in police custody, on May 16, 2014. The remaining

three accused were arrested on July 18, 2014. A year later the deadly clause PPC 295-C was added to their charge-sheet at the suggestion of a high court judge. A sessions judge sentenced them to death on October 11, 2017. Appeal against this decision has been made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them in over a year. These three Ahmadis are in prison for the last 5 years.

2. Mr. Saeed Ahmad Waraich was charged on a false complaint of blasphemy under PPC 295-C with FIR Nr. 645 in Tandlianwala police station, District Faisalabad on January 20, 2018. He was arrested a day earlier. He is under trial.
3. Mr. Javed Ahmad Ghumman was charged in a fabricated blasphemy case under PPC 295-C in police station Chobara, District Layya on July 1, 2018 in FIR Nr. 288/18. His interim bail was cancelled on July 14, 2018; he was arrested and sent to Layya Jail. Rai Yasseen Shaheen the Additional Sessions Judge Layya refused his post-arrest bail on August 6. Later, on October 2, 2018 his bail application was refused by High Court Justice Sarfraz Ahmad of Multan Bench also. Now his case is under trial and his bail application is pending before the Sessions Court in District Layyah.

From the Media

- **(Sri Lanka) Ahmadis, assumed as Muslim, attacked in their homes**
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, April 26, 2019
- **LHC issues notice to DG PTA (Telecommunication Authority) to appear with records on Ahmadis' uploading the Quran on Google Play Store.**
The daily Mashriq; Lahore, April 11, 2019

- **Chenab Nagar: Sewage system dilapidated. Citizens life most uncomfortable due foul smell.**

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, April 20, 2019

- **Khatme Nabuwwat course shall commence in Chenab Nagar from April 13, 2019**

The daily Aman; Faisalabad, April 10, 2019

- **Qadianis' excessive roughness (gonda gardi) is a conspiracy to destroy the peace of the town (Rabwah): Ulamae Karam**

The daily Pakistan; Lahore, April 8, 2019

- **Firm belief in End of Prophethood makes a man an atom bomb: Ashraf Asif (of TLP)**

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, April 29, 2019

- **JI holds Safeguarding the End of Prophethood Conference in Lahore on theme 'Khatme Nabuwwat and our Responsibility.' Liaqat Bloach spoke.**

The daily Mashriq; Lahore, April 29, 2019

- **20 martyred as blast rips through Quetta market, 48 injured in suicide attack**

The daily The Express Tribune; Lahore, April 13, 2019

- **Suicide bomber heaps trauma on Hazaras, eight Shia community members among 20 dead in Quetta, Chaman blasts**

Taliban faction claims it collaborated with Lashkar Jahangvi over attack

The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 13, 2019

- **Three officials martyred in attack on North Waziristan Levies' check post**

The daily Jang; Lahore, April 28, 2019

- **Jundulla militant involved in bank robberies, kidnappings held in Karachi: CTD**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 12, 2019

- **Rs 30 million schools' fund diverted to Samiul Haq's seminary**

The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 10, 2019

- **Siraj takes oath as JI emir for second term**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 14, 2019
- **Apostatic and Takfiri factories should be shut down: Nurul Haq Qadri (Fed Minister)**
The daily Ausaf; Lahore, April 1, 2019
- **Lauds NZ premier; (Mutahidda) Ulama Board denounces forced conversion; (It) demanded implementation of the National Action Plan**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 1, 2019
- **If a judge does not deliver justice in a case, he shall be accountable here and hereafter: CJ LHC**
The daily Jang; Lahore, April 7, 2019
- **Sexual abuse adopted as a tool in Kashmir and Palestine: Maliha Lodhi**
The daily Jang; Lahore, April 28, 2019
- **Sikh community donates \$60,000 to help victims of Christchurch mosque attack**
Tweet by SJ Singh, April 25, 2019
- **Over 200 die as bombs devastate Lanka on Easter**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 22, 2019
- **Sri Lanka bans face veils after attacks by militants**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 30, 2019
- **Trump vetoes bill to end US support for war in Yemen**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 18, 2019
- **15 killed as tips lead Lankan forces to Islamist hideout**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 28, 2019
- **Islamic state claims responsibility for Sri Lanka bombings**
The daily The Nation; Lahore, April 24, 2019
- **270 poll officials die from overwork in Indonesia**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 29, 2019
- **Trump made 10,000 ‘false or misleading’ claims in office: WP (Washington Post)**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 30, 2019
- **Declaring Qadianis Non-Muslims is a historic achievement: Farooq Haider (PM AJK)**
The daily Jang; Lahore, April 23, 2019
- **11 Security personnel among 14 martyred near Gawadar**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 19, 2019
- **Bank transfers by Sharifs for money laundering traced**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 15, 2019
- **Amir ul Azim appointed Secretary General of Jamaat Islami in place of Liaqat Baloch**
The daily Pakistan; Lahore, April 27, 2019
- **I’m the spokesman (Awaz) of the religious lobby; no operation is planned: Sh. Rashid**
The daily Jang; Lahore, April 6, 2019
- **NAB grills Hamza in money laundering case**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 13, 2019
- **Foreign spy agencies fund PTM, says Army**
Military spokesman says time is up for Pashtun Tahafuz Movement leaders, hints at action
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 30, 2019
- **Changes in federal cabinet; Asad Umar resigns; four ministers’ portfolios changed including that of Fawad Chaudhry**
The daily Jahan Pakistan; Lahore, April 19, 2019
- **Speeding passenger van hits toll-plaza in Islamabad; 12 dead, 5 injured**
The daily Jang; Lahore, April 30, 2019
- **For Hazaras stepping out of their homes is a luxury**
Hazaras end protest on assurance of NAP implementation
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 16, 2019

- **No coercion in adult Ghotki girls' conversion, rules IHC**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 12, 2019
- **150,000 fake arms licenses issued from DC office, Lahore; 5 officials referred to NAB**
The daily Jang; Lahore, April 6, 2019
- **Punjab police get fourth chief in eight months**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 16, 2019
- **Handcuffing suspects before conviction un-Islamic: CII**
The daily The Nation; Lahore, April 5, 2019
- **I million species risk extinction due to humans: draft UN report**
The daily Dawn; Lahore, April 24, 2019

Op-ed: Pakistan's terrified Christians

THE prime minister and people of New Zealand have put before us gold-plated standards of decency, compassion and firmness against religious terrorism. Their response to last week's horrific mosque massacres in Christchurch was exemplary. Many countries need to learn from New Zealand, Pakistan more than most.

Donning a black chadar, 38-year-old Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern was visibly sorrowing as she tightly hugged the bereaved women around her. Muslims are not others, she said. Referring to the dead, she spoke of them simply but poignantly, "they are us", To the Australian killer: "You may have chosen us – we utterly reject and condemn you." Without the Bible and without reference to God, Ardern had been sworn into the prime minister's office just 18 months ago. She says it is compassion that matters, not religion.

Pervez Hoodbhoy in the Dawn of March 23, 2019

Op-ed: SC and minority rights

It is an ironical turn of events that the judgment for which former chief justice Jillani has won accolades at home and abroad is yet to be properly implemented. Chief Justice Jillani took *suo motu* notice of a letter complaining of lack of proper action in the case of the terrorist attack on a Peshawar church in September 2013 in which 81 people were killed. He also took notice of petitions on attacks on Hindu temples and shrines and the threats to the Kalashas as well as Ismailis in Chitral. The three-members bench headed by the chief justice made some recommendations:

...

Finally the court passed an order to ensure compliance with its directives in these words: "The office shall open a separate file to be placed before a three-member bench to ensure this judgment is given effect to... the said bench may also entertain complaints/petitions relatable to violations of fundamental rights of minorities in the country."

Nearly five years down the line, the Supreme Court judgment remains largely unimplemented. The importance of the court's directives cannot be contested. Moreover, the minorities have accepted the judgment as a charter of their demands. Recently, two civil society organizations moved the Supreme Court for directing expeditious implementation of the verdict. The court created a one-man commission to present a compliance report, but nothing is known about its labours. This arrangement, it may be submitted, amounts to disregarding the points in the judgment.

The minorities find it difficult to keep the hope of justice alive.

I A Rehman in the Dawn, April 11, 2019

Op-ed: The Rouge Cleric

The fact that Lal masjid cleric Maulana Abdul Aziz, who was involved in the Lal Masjid riots

in the country under the Musharraf regime, dodged the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration and was able to deliver a sermon at Lal Masjid is alarming to say the least. This is not the first attempt made by the cleric to go against the writ of the state. He tried to regain the post of Khateeb of the mosque in November 2018 as well. His several attempts to get hold of a microphone in Lal Masjid was followed by the government in 2017 as well. He also stirred another controversy in 2014 after he openly extended support to the perpetrators of the Army Public School attack in Peshawar by calling it a reactionary move by the terrorists.

The situation which has developed post the recent Pak-India tension with-in the country is that the government is showing great willingness to cleanse the land of radical voices which promote hate speech and prompt people for indulging in violence. This commitment has been reinforced by Pakistan's participation in the dialogue to end the war in Afghanistan. Pakistan has facilitated the talks between the United States of America (USA) and the Taliban in Qatar to ensure a diplomatic end to

the war. This alongwith the continuing pressure by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) leaves no space for the Pakistani government to show any leniency towards elements within the state which now promote a narrative which has been labeled as anti-Pakistan by Prime Minister Imran Khan.

The Daily The Nation, Lahore; March 24, 2019

Report: Gender mix reception is against teachings of Islam and I had warned him to stop it.

Khateeb Hussain, who murdered his English professor for encouraging a mixed gender gathering at a college in Bahawalpur, defends his action in official police report. The 21-year old was reportedly, inspired by the teachings of the right wing Tehrik-e-Labbaik, Pakistan.

The Weekly Newswave March 23, 2019