An expert opinion on Freedom of Religion or Belief

“According to international human rights norms, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief must be prescribed by law and be necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others. The fact that a religious community in its advocacy role is critical towards the government or that a religious community represents a minority not favored by a government do not constitute legitimate reasons to infringe on their right to freedom of religion or belief. To the contrary, the OSCE Participating States

(Overleaf)

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committed themselves to “favourably consider the interest of religious communities to participate in public dialogue,” regardless of whether they constitute a majority or a minority, or whether they are critical to or compliant with government policies.

Following the UN Special Rapporteur’s on-site visits to and his written communications with countries known for their violent incidents involving religions, such as Pakistan and India, it seems evident that the non implementation of tolerance and discrimination that constitutes the major threat to religious minorities. In countries such as Pakistan, it is legal norms themselves that are “likely to favor or foster intolerance in society.” In India, for instance, the failure to implement the right to freedom of religion or belief in connection with the implementation of democracy causes difficulties.

The international community is therefore particularly challenged to monitor whether national legislation and state practice comply with internationally recognized human rights instruments and supervisory mechanisms were established for interstate conflicts, the question needs to be raised, whether such instruments and mechanisms are adequate for effective interventions at an early stage. Clearly, human rights can no more be regarded as exclusively the domestic affairs of a state.”

(Rudiger Noll, Chairperson of the OSCE Advisory Penal, in Facilitating Freedom of Religion or Belief; A Deskbook, p. 759)
Ahmadi arrested on atypical fake excuse, never thought of in the past

Joharabad, District Khushab; May 21, 2019:
Mr. Zafar Abbas Joiya, Ahmadi received a call from the police station telling him to appear before the SHO because a complaint had been lodged against him. Mr. Joiya and the president of the local Ahmadiyya community went to the police station in the evening. SHO said to Mr. Joiya, “A complaint has been received in the police station against you and your brother Mr. Javed Akhtar Joiya settled in Australia, that you have fixed a decorative plate of “MashAllah” (What God has willed) on your newly built house, whilst the law doesn’t allow this to you. Remove that plate and deposit it in the police station.” The president of the local Ahmadiyya community responded, “We are not the ones who remove the name of Allah; we’ll neither remove it nor allow any non-official do so; if police do that in uniform, it’s up to them.”

It should be mentioned that MashAllah is not one of these Islamic epithets forbidden to Ahmadis specifically mentioned in the law.

The SHO then arrested Mr. Joiya under PPC 298-C, an Ahmadi-specific law. An arrest on this fabricated excuse is the first ever; it brings little credit to the PTI regime that took over last year, and claims to be more liberal and more committed to the core values of democracy.

The officials concerned in whose jurisdiction, this first ever overindulgence was undertaken are SHO Mr. Amjad Jalal; DPO Rana Shoaib; DC Khushab Mr. Arshad Manzur Buzdar; and the CM of Punjab Mr. Usman Buzdar of PTI.

Government stance on revision of text-book’s content

Peshawar: For long Pakistan has been blamed for prescribing text books with hateful contents against religious minorities. An effort was apparently made in the recent past to remove one such content from a text book in KPK. There was however a political back-lash and the PTI government yielded immediately without a groan. A news report from the Express News of May 2, 2019 is translated and reproduced below without comment:

Orders for action against one who was responsible to change content on Khatme Nabuwwat in KPK’s text book
The change over ‘end of prophethood’ was made without consent of the government: Speaker KPK Assembly
Web Desk, Thursday, May 2, 2019

Peshawar: Mr. Mushtaq Ghani, speaker of KPK Assembly stated that orders for action against those responsible for excluding reference to Khatme Nabuwwat have been issued.

In answer to the objection raised by Ms Humaira Khatoon (MMA) MPA over change to lesson on End of Prophethood, Speaker Mushtaq Ghani said that the material was removed without permission of the government, the Education Minister has ordered that the content should be reintroduced, and action be taken against those found responsible for the change.

It should be mentioned that changes were made to pages 13, 14 in the Islamiat text book for class IV, and content regarding the belief in Khatme Nabuwwat was removed.

Ahmadiyya worship place threatened gravely

Karachi; May 2, 2019: A self-styled journalist and (anti) social-activist Ms. Basma Norine prepared video of the Ahmadiyya prayer centre in Karachi on May 2, 2019 and
objected to its minarets. Later she went to the local police station and tried to get an FIR registered on this count against Ahmadis. She made another video of her visit to the police station and therein incited local Muslims against Ahmadis and threatened: “If anyone would attack this prayer centre or explode a bomb therein destroying it and killing Ahmadis therein, the police should not act against us, as Muslims’ sentiments have been injured because of it.” Surprisingly, the police did not react to her flagrant hate-material.

Ahmadis felt concerned and lodged a complaint on May 3 against her hate-provoking speech which she had uploaded on the social media. The SSP East told Ahmadis that they were doing the inquiry and would register an FIR if appropriate.

Ahmadis were later called by the Assistant Commissioner on May 10. He praised Ahmadis for being law-abiding citizens. He, however, added that these minarets were unlawful. Ahmadis told him that this building was built 50 years ago much before the anti-Ahmadi law. The AC referred the case to the DC. The DC told Ahmadis to appear before him on May 13 with all the documents. Ahmadis went to him, but right at the start he plainly told Ahmadis to demolish the minarets otherwise the authorities would do that, and said that he had strict instructions from the Commissioner. Ahmadis felt very disturbed over it and asked for 2 days’ grace for legal action.

Ahmadis contacted the political leadership and the Rangers leadership and briefed them on the absurdity of the intended action against the place of worship. DG Rangers informed that they had received a demand from the TLP (of Rizvi and Qadri) about the demolition of the minarets of the Ahmadiyya place of worship, under threat of a sit-in. Rangers then referred the matter to the civil administration. Ahmadis explained that this place was 50 years old, and minarets were built on temples and churches too. Would those be demolished as well in future? Also the law does not forbid Ahmadis minarets on their places of worship.

Ahmadis had to move fast and contact very senior administrative authorities and political leaderships of PPP as this party governs in Sindh. Our justified stand was accepted in these higher circles and orders were issued to the administration and the police to stay put and take no action on the demands of Ms. Norine and the TLP.

This crisis was a major attempt against Ahmadis’ human rights and freedom of religion.

**Problems for a dutiful Ahmadi government servant**

**Rawalpindi; May 2019:** Mr. Tahir Ahmad Rehan an Ahmadi is serving in the police department for twenty-four years. He is known to be honest and hardworking. For this he faces hostility in and outside the department, and mullas undertake to harass him for his faith.

Mr. Rehan was appointed SHO New Town, Rawalpindi in 2015. After two months of his posting the CPO Rawalpindi asked him, if he was an Ahmadi. He replied, “Yes I am an Ahmadi; however if that is a problem, I may be relieved”. “No, you were promoted on merit; continue”, the boss replied. However, after a few days he was transferred out and then on to other locations in Punjab without assigning a reason. In 2018 again, he was transferred to different posts in Rawalpindi. When he took action against criminals and acted firm, the criminals made his faith an excuse, opposed him and provoked people against him on the social media. The mulla also joined them. Mr. Rehan started receiving threats. Meanwhile he was again transferred. On inquiry he came to know that his transfer was ordered for his faith.

Mr. Rehan is facing departmental investigations on complaints of mullas and criminals. Recently an FIR was lodged against him.
Mr. Rehan is a competent officer and his colleagues acknowledge this.

**An ad for anti-Ahmadi publications and donations in a leading daily**

**Lahore; 31 May 2019:** This ad appeared in the daily The News, Lahore of May 11, 2019. It was entered by the Aalami Majlis Tahafuz Khatme Nabuwwat (AMTKN) Karachi, Multan etc. We translate below some of the entries in this ad to illustrate the nature of the stock on sale or promotion; the ad claims that the AMTKN undertakes the following, *inter alia:*

- Worldwide missionary activities and efforts to choke Qadianism
- Proselytizing through the weekly Khatme Nabuwwat
- Counter Qadianis’ propaganda on the internet
- Prosecution and defence in higher courts on issues related to Qadianiat
- Distribution of millions (*lakhon*) of leaflets and books in Urdu, Arabic and English
- Holding Khatme Nabuwwat conferences in the country and abroad
- Building mosques and seminary in Chenab Nagar
- Rebuttal of Qadianism
- Publication and distribution of hundreds of titles on issues like Descent of Messiah and other issues.

Muslims have been requested to donate funds, pay Zakat, Sadaqat and Fitrana to finance the above-mentioned projects and to protect Muslims against the apostatic activities of Qadianis and to safeguard the dogma of End of Prophethood.


At the top of the ad the advertisers lure the public to donate: **“To avail the Intercession of the Holy Prophet (peace be on him).”**

Thereafter they come down to the real object: **“To accomplish the Mission of Maulana Muhammad Yusuf Ludhianvi Shaheed.”**

Ordinarily these activities, if undertaken peacefully and appropriately, are lawful and permissible, but as preverbal “The devil lies in detail”, these in fact promote extremism and terrorism; this is obvious from an extract of a publication by the above mentioned Maulana Muhammad Yusuf Ludhianvi Shaheed, quoted below:
My and your duty

What does the sense of honour and shame (Ghairat) demand from Muslims? In fact, it demands that not a single Qadiani should be left alive on earth. Seize each one of these malignant individuals and kill them. I am not being emotional when I say this. This is the verity; this is the edict of Islam. This is the law of Islam concerning Murtads (apostates) and Zindiques (heretics)....

Muhammad Yusuf Ludhianvi
Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat

Ref: Maulana Muhammad Yusuf Ludhianvi, Tohfa Qadianiat; Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat, Multan; May 1993, 1st edition, p. 680, 681

Note: Ludhianvi was the Amir of the Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat and claimed leading the 1974 campaign in that position against Ahmadis, which led to their bloodshed and Non-Muslim status in law and constitution of Pakistan.
Note; This book with the hateful and murderous message is available in libraries, book depots and is advertised through the above shown ad in the daily The News. The News welcomes the income from the ad, and the authorities prefer to allow advertisement of the terrorist literature.

**A national solidarity conference – mulla style**

*Alipur Saidan, District Narowal; May 12, 2019:* The daily *Nawa-i-Waqat* of Lahore published a lengthy press report on a conference held at a Barelvi tomb (*Darbar*) at Alipur Saidan at the occasion of its *Urs* (anniversary) under the supervision of Pir Munawwar Hussain Shah, the incumbent spiritual superior (*Sajjadah Nashin*). The report claims attendance in thousands of followers and a long list of Barelvi ulama as speakers, so it would be appropriate to reproduce here a summary of this press report to place on record the style and substance of such conferences these days in Pakistan in the Ahmadiyya context.

The conference’s title is significant: *Aalami Khatme Nabuwwat, Tahaffuz Namus Risalat, Istehkam Pakistan Conference* (Worldwide End of Prophethood, Defense of the Honour of Prophethood, Solidarity of Pakistan rally). The political significance of the choice of the three themes for the rally is noteworthy.

The report highlights the fact that this *Darbar* is currently the heir to the great Pir Jamaat Ali Shah who at the time of the Partition supported the Muslim League and the Quaid-i-Azam. This is indeed laudable as few Ulama supported the Pakistan Movement. However, the claim that in 1946, Pir Jamaat Ali led more than 5000 Ulama and Sheikhs to the All India Sunni Conference is sham. To call all the commoners Ulama and Sheikh is rather phoney. Their numbers also should be verified.

As these days anti-Ahmadiyya theme is thought to provide greatest political dividends, this ‘solidarity conference’ indulged mostly in anti-Ahmadiyya rhetoric. Following is quoted from the Report:
- Qadianis are using Islam to promote their despicable designs.
- Mirza’s mischief is flourishing here; the government should enact stringent laws to neutralize it.
- We shall spare no sacrifice to defend the integrity of Pakistan and for the defence of the dogma of End of Prophethood.
- Pir Jamaat Ali led the frontal troops against Mirza Qadiani who was burgling against the palace of End of Prophethood, and led him to his ignominious end.
- Pakistan was realized through his (Pir Jamaat Ali’s) beneficence. In support of the End of Prophethood he made life unbearable for Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani, and it was his prophecy that dispatched Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani to hell. Etc etc.

We should place on record some of the anti-Ahmadiyya demands made at this ‘religious’ conference:
- Pakistan should place ban on all the activities of Qadianis.
- Qadianis’ mischief is flourishing here; the government should enact stringent laws to neutralize it.
- End of Prophethood should be part of school syllabus, in all its details.
- The government should establish End of Prophethood chairs in universities.
- The ruling elite, following the footsteps of Amir Millat (Jamaat Ali Shah) and in loyalty to the Holy Prophet, should fire all Mirza’s from senior ranks (sic). (There are none: Ed)
Services of Pir Syed Jamaat Ali Shah in the realm of Pakistan Movement and the safeguarding of End of Propehthood should be made part of school syllabus. Etc. Etc.

It seems that the speakers at the conference have not even heard of Freedom of Religion or Belief, Human Rights, Human Dignity, Religious Tolerance, Absolute Justice – and they call their conference Pakistan Solidarity Conference. Barelvis had a reputation to be religiously mild and tolerant, but that was decades ago; now they can produce only mullas like Allama Rizvi, Pir Qadri and Pir Munawwar Hussain whom the report gives the title of Amir Millat (The leader of Islamdom).

The report mentions that authorities DSP, DPO and SHO Qila Ahmada made excellent arrangements for security at the conference.

51 EU Members of Parliament write to the Prime Minister on ‘Persecution of Religious Minorities in Pakistan’

Brussels; April 30, 2019: Fifty-one members of the European Union Parliament have written the following letter to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Imran Khan:

Mr. Imran Khan
Prime Minister Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Prime Minister’s office
Red Zone, Islamabad Capital Territory, Islamabad
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Brussels, 30 April 2019

Persecution of Religious Minorities in Pakistan

Dear Prime Minister Imran Khan

In recent months, European NGOs have been reporting increasing number of cases of human rights violations, especially those against religious minorities in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. In view of this disturbing scenario, we, the undersigned, write to you as elected Members of the European Parliament to express our concern and seek reassurance that this persecution will cease.

Today’s Pakistan is far removed from being the country that its founding father Muhammad Ali Jinnah had envisaged. A Muslim majority state where people from all religions, whether Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Ahmadis or Shias, would be treated equally. Over the last 7 decades, successive governments in Pakistan have contributed to putting in place systems that have resulted in political, economic and social discrimination of religious minorities, and encouraged acts of violence against them by radical Islamic groups.

Starting with the adoption of the Objectives Resolution in 1949, that proclaimed that the future Constitution of Pakistan would be modeled on Islamic ideology, the laws of the Islamic Republic have continued to be interpreted as preferential towards Muslims. Yet, Pakistan is also the only State that has officially declared the Ahmadi Muslim community as non-Muslims, prohibiting them from professing their belief as a result, every year in Pakistan, there are numerous cases of Ahmadis being persecuted or killed because they have “used symbols/practiced rituals considered Islamic”- an irony, given the fact that the raison d’etre for the creation of Pakistan was that it would be a homeland for Muslims in the subcontinent.

Similarly, we have observed with grave concern the case of Asia Bibi, the Christian woman who had been falsely charged, harassed and threatened with death due to the country’s Blasphemy Laws. The existence of such religious discriminatory laws encourages citizens to engage in intolerant and violent acts against non-Muslims. Despite these laws being frequently misused, no steps have been
taken by the government of Pakistan to annul them. By this inaction the Islamic Republic of Pakistan can only be seen as abetting such acts of persecution. Another matter of concern is the growing number of cases of forced conversion of women from religious minority groups, who remain particularly vulnerable to abuse. A report by the Movement for Solidarity and Peace in Pakistan found that at least 1,000 girls belonging to Christian and Hindu communities, often minors, are kidnapped and forced to marry Muslim men every year.

Over the last few years, religious extremist groups, often with support of the Pakistani State have grown in influence, further generating religious prejudices against minorities. Concomitantly, instances of attacks against minorities, their places of worship, etc. have also increased year upon year.

As Members of the European Parliament, we would wish to remind the Islamic Republic of Pakistan that the oppression of religious minorities violates the United Nations treaty on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which is the foundation for the international covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) a binding UN human rights agreement. The ICCPR is a key international human rights treaty that obligates countries that have ratified the treaty, to protect and preserve basic human rights. Pakistan ratified the ICCPR in 2010.

The ICCPR Convention is also one of twenty-seven core conventions set out as a prerequisite criteria for the European Union’s General Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP) of which Pakistan is a beneficiary. The continued violation of this international covenant especially with regard to the persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan, will compel the undersigned Members of the European Parliament to call on the European Commission to suspend all subsidies and trade preferences until the effective implementation of the convention can be assured by Pakistan. We, therefore, urge the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to take measures to dismantle the constitutional and institutional structures that have resulted in the persecution of religious minorities in country.

Yours sincerely,

The undersigned Members of The European Parliament

**TLP leaders booked under sedition and terrorism charges released on bail**

*Lahore; May 14, 2019*: The Lahore High Court released TLP chief Khadim Rizvi and former TLP patron-in-chief Pir Afzal Qadri on bail. The following piece of news from the daily Dawn of May 8 is reproduced here for record:

**LHC reserves judgment on bail pleas filed by TLP chief Khadim Rizvi, Pir Afzal Qadri**

*Dawn.com/news/1481032*

May 8, 2019

The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Wednesday reserved its verdict on bail pleas filed by Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan chief Khadim Rizvi and former TLP patron-in-chief Pir Afzal Qadri, and rejected an apology submitted by Qadri over incendiary remarks made by him during a protest against the Supreme Court’s acquittal of Aasia Bibi.

Rizvi and Qadri were taken into "protective
custody” by the state during a crackdown in November 2018 after the TLP announced it would observe martyrs’ day on Nov 25, 2018. The arrests followed weeks after the TLP led three-day protests across the country against Aasia Bibi’s acquittal.

The lawyers from both sides completed their arguments before the two-member bench headed by Justice Qasim Ali Khan today.

Court rejects Qadri’s apology

The LHC had, in a May 7 hearing, directed Pir Afzal Qadri to submit a "detailed apology" for his controversial remarks after it found his initial public apology missing some key details.

When asked to define the "harsh words" Qadri had admitted to using in his apology, his lawyer Hafeezur Rehman Chaudhry said that according to the court record, the former TLP leader had said that the three judges [who acquitted Aasia Bibi] were liable to be killed, that Prime Minister Imran Khan is a Zionist agent and that the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Javed Qamar Bajwa’s orders were not to be accepted.

Qadri, who had been booked under sedition and terrorism charges, had resigned from the TLP on May 1 citing health issues and, on the court’s earlier directions, issued a public apology for his remarks.

"When the verdict of the Aasia Masih case was pronounced, my religious sentiments were hurt and I delivered a speech. I am very sorry for hurting the sentiments of the government, the judiciary and the chief of army staff,” he had said.

At the outset, the court directed Qadri’s lawyer to provide a straightforward written apology or accept a decision based on merit. Both judges raised questions over various aspects of the apology as it was shared with the court.

Justice Qasim, taking a critical view of the apology, said this way anyone could issue treasonous statements whenever they like, and then try to apologise by claiming that they were not thinking straight at the time.

"Why are they [such people] nurtured in laps, why are they not sent to psychiatric hospitals?” he asked.

Justice Asjad Javed Ghural pointed out that the written apology submitted in court used the word mansoob for the remarks issued by Qadri.

"Why did the written apology use the word ‘attributed?’” he asked the lawyer, noting that it amounted to manipulation of language.

When Qadri’s lawyer told the court that the education of many children had been impacted by the proceedings against his client, Justice Qasim wondered "what education must this man provide?"

"Such pirs should be hanged. They are ruining society,” Justice Qasim remarked.

Bail petitions

The state prosecutor and lawyers for Rizvi and Qadri all concluded their arguments regarding the two suspects' bail pleas today.

The state prosecutor opposed granting bail to the TLP chief and former party leader.

"It seems as though this person is beset by frustrations," Justice Qasim stated, without referring to anyone by name. "It is unfortunate that our pulpits have been surrendered to such people."

The judge then asked to be shown a Hadith that was written during a speech delivered by Khadim Rizvi.

"If [you think] he didn’t say this, we will play the CD for you tomorrow,” Justice Qasim retorted.

Prosecutor Ehtesham Qadir told the court not to examine the speeches made by the TLP chief and then TLP patron-in-chief on a case-by-case basis.

He informed the judges that the Punjab Safe City project had provided a video of the speeches, which was then sent for forensic examination, including a voice recording test which revealed that the voice on record was Rizvi’s.

As the arguments concluded, the court reserved its judgement in the case until May 13.
On May 14, the LHC granted bail to the two accused. Their story from the press is quoted above in full, as these two mullas have apparently decided to excel all others in anti-Ahmadi hate campaign.

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 Sheikhupura 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 and half. 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

- Tweet from Bilal Mahmood:
  Dutch journalist: Would you like sanctions against Pakistan because of persecution of Ahmadis…?
  Khalifa of Ahmadiyya…: “I do not support any such action that causes suffering to humanity to the poor of such nations.”
  @bilalmahmoodukat11.49AMonMon, May27, 2019

- Chenab Nagar: Drainage system blocked. Sewerage overflow. Pedestrians face difficulties.
  The daily Nawa-i-Waqt; Lahore, May 20, 2019

- RAW and Qadianis are involved in terrorism in Balochistan: Allama Mumtaz Awan
  The daily Islam; Lahore, May 28, 2019

- We shall not allow Qadianis preaching in the guise of inter-faith harmony. Qadianism and Bahaism are no religions. They deny end of Prophethood and are rebels against Islam.
  No tolerance to patrons of Qadianism. KN Jamaats support Allama Zubair Zaheer’s stand.
  The daily Islam; Lahore, May 19, 2019

- Qadianis accelerate campaign to bring bad name to Pakistan in world community: Alleged Commission of HR violations.
  The daily Ausaf; Lahore, May 7, 2019

- Bomb attack jolts Lahore, kills 10 near Data Darbar
  Five police officials martyred. Hizbul Ahrar claims responsibility.
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 9, 2019

- 11 (Islamist) organizations banned
  The daily Jang; Lahore, May 12, 2019
- Quetta: Two dead in blast in Pashtunabad mosque; 12 injured
  *The daily Khabrain; Lahore, May 25, 2019*
- LHC orders release on bail of Pir Afzal Qadri and Khadim Rizvi
  *The daily Jang; Lahore, May 15, 2019*
- TLP leader says farewell to active politics
  Pir Afzal Qadri offers apology for provocative remarks about Supreme Court, army chief
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 2, 2019*
- UNSC lists JeM chief as global terrorist
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 9, 2019*
- Maulana Abdur Rahman Makki of banned organization Jamaat ud Dawa arrested
  *The daily Jang; Lahore, May 16, 2019*
- Qadianis, Lahoris, Mirzais are apostates, Kafirs and outside the pale of Islam: Maulana Tahir Ashrafi
  *The daily Pakistan; Lahore, May 26, 2019*
- Qadiani and Bahais have no religion: M.T. Khatme Nabuwwat
  The deniers of KN are rebels against Islam and traitors to the Constitution of Pakistan. To let them in the Inter-religion forum is contempt of Islam and other religions: Ulamae Karam
  *The daily Insaf; Lahore, May 21, 2019*
- Qadianis are not a sect within Islam, nor a non-Muslim minority like others: Head Tehrik Labbaik
  *The daily Mashriq; Lahore, May 8, 2019*
- The government that facilitates Aasia cannot last long: Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat
  *The daily Insaf; Lahore, May 9, 2019*
- Such Pirs should be hanged: LHC
  Why such persons are seated at Gaddis (Religious leadership); why should they not be moved to a mental hospital. They in fact destroy the society.
  *The daily Ausaf; Lahore, May 9, 2019*
- Belief in Khatme Nabuwwat is fundamental to Islam: Maulana Abdul Aziz (of Lal Masjid)
  *The daily Islam; Lahore, May 1, 2019*
- Fawad proposes panel to replace Ruet-i-Hilal
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 6, 2019*
- Our state is like a mother to all its citizens: Sardar Masood, President Azad Jammu and Kashmir
  *The daily Jang; Lahore, May 23, 2019*
- EU MPs call for an end to ‘persecution of religious minorities’ (in Pakistan)
  *The daily Express Tribune; Lahore, May 3, 2019*
- Fasting strictly forbidden in China. Penalties for violation of instructions. Keeping long beard, putting on veil, offering salat and opposition to drinking is termed extremism.
  *The daily Mashriq; Lahore, May 10, 2019*
- Lanka town put under curfew after clashes between Muslims, Buddhists
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 6, 2019*
- Sri Lanka: 600 foreigners including 200 Muslims clerics expelled (after Easter bombings)
  *The daily Jang; Lahore, May 6, 2019*
- US dispatches aircraft carrier over unspecified ‘Iran threats’
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 7, 2019*
- Three soldiers martyred in attack from across Afghan border
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 2, 2019*
- First black woman sworn in as Chicago mayor
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 22, 2019*
- SC throws out Nawaz plea to travel abroad for treatment
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 4, 2019*
- Aasia Bibi leaves Pakistan amid official silence
  *The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 12, 2019*
- Decision made (in Lahore) to crackdown against those spreading
provocative literature and making such speeches
The daily Jahane Pakistan; Lahore, May 21, 2019

- 10 soldiers injured in PTM - army clash
  The daily News; Lahore, May 27, 2019

- Three labourers shot dead in Nasirabad (Balochistan)
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 9, 2019

- Terror in Gwadar as gunmen storm luxury hotel
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 12, 2019

- Four policemen martyred in Quetta
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 14, 2019

- Since 1990, at least 65 people have reportedly been killed in Pakistan over claims of blasphemy.
  BBC: May 8, 2019

- Fawad (Fed Minister) calls ex-CJP (Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry) incompetent judge, seeks accountability
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 19, 2019

- Corrupted and non-standard copies of Holy Quran should be forfeited forthwith: LHC
  First ever judgment in past 150 years in vernacular in Lahore High Court
  The daily Din; Lahore, May 4, 2019

- Education ministry to control seminaries
  The daily Express Tribune; Lahore, May 12, 2019

- 924 fake bank accounts; Rs 42b in money laundering: DG FIA
  The daily Jang; Lahore, May 5, 2019

- Islam ordains Nikah soon after puberty: Ulama
  Boys reach adulthood at age 12-18 while girls at 9-16.
  The daily Ausaf; Lahore, May 7, 2019

- Eight burnt alive as van catches fire after accident
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, May 6, 2019

- World Index: Global Gender Gap Report 2018 listed best countries to be a woman: Iceland stood first, Philippines 8th, UK 15th; Bangladesh 48th; US 51st; India 108th; Saudi 141st; Pakistan 148th. It is noteworthy that Bangladesh is 100 steps above Pakistan.
  meena gabeena@gaheena on May 16, 2019

- Mona Farooq tweeted: A brilliant lecturer # Junaid Hafeez has been in jail for over 6 years on false blasphemy charges.
  A hate preacher/foul mouthed bigot # Khadim Hussain Rizvi who openly threatened State, Judiciary and Army is being released on bail.
  @moonalaalalaOn May 15, 2019