Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan
Monthly Report
February 2020

Stellar distance between the Federal and Provincial capitals of Pakistan
In a way, Islamabad and Lahore are so far apart that even modern communications seem to take a long time to reach from the former to the latter. For instance, the Prime Minister’s declared public policy is: “Our minorities are equal citizens of our country. We shall deal firmly with those who target non-Muslim citizens or their places of worship.” However, the ruling party in the Punjab, which is the same as in the federal capital, allowed its district administration in Kasur to forcibly take over an old Ahmadiyya mosque and hand it over to a mob of rioters. A mulla can be seen on a YouTube video telling his band of bigots that the administration will hand over the mosque to them on the simple condition that they avoid disturbance and violence. For details see story on page 1.

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Another Ahmadiyya place of worship handed over by authorities to gang leaders of a riot—in the Punjab

Kharappar, District Kasur: This happened on February 6, 2020. A Press Release issued by the Ahmadiyya head office in Pakistan is reproduced below; it sums up well the facts that deserve to be placed on record:

Press Release
Ahmadis deprived of their place of worship and their Right to Worship in Kharappar, District Kasur
Spokesperson of Pakistan’s Ahmadiyya Community asks the government to take note of the blatant violation of the verdict issued by the Supreme Court of Pakistan in 2014

Chenab Nagar (PR). The spokesperson of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan has said that the seizure of an Ahmadi place of worship in Kharappar, District Kasur is a clear violation of the community’s fundamental right to religious freedom. The site in question has been in the possession of the community for over one hundred years. However, under duress from certain agitating parties, the local authorities have handed it over to the ringleaders of a mob that had formed to forcefully take control of it. Prior to this, the local Ahmadi community in Kharappar was subject to constant pressure to relinquish the building themselves.

According to the spokesperson of the community, on 6th February 2020 at approximately 2pm in the afternoon, a mob forcefully entered the place of worship. Once inside, they smashed the security cameras and installed a loudspeaker through which they called the Azan. Afterwards they performed prayers inside the main hall. Once news reached them, a heavy police contingent arrived at the site, but took no action against the mob. Instead they locked the place of worship down, and without any authority or jurisdiction announced that the place of worship would be handed over to the ringleaders of the disturbance.

Citing an earlier judgment by the Supreme Court of Pakistan issued on 19 June 2014 the spokesperson of the Ahmadiyya Community added that the forceful acquisition of the place of worship is in clear violation of the verdict issued by the then Chief Justice Tassaduq Hussain Jillani. Under his authority a three-member apex bench devised a framework and reached a historical decision (S.M.C.No1of2014/PLD2014SC99) which outlined 8 guidelines instructing the government to form a special police task force in order to ensure the security of places of worship. One of the recommendations focused on the need to take swift action against those who were found to be involved in defiling any place of worship in the country.

Ahmadiyya mosque Kharappar
The spokesperson said that the Ahmadiyya Community is a peaceful, law-abiding, and patriotic community which continues to work towards the progress and betterment of Pakistan. Despite this, not only Ahmadis are consistently denied their freedom of religion, but their historical places of worship are also being illegally taken away from them. This only leads to heightened religious discord and hostility.

Given the delicateness of the situation, the community demands that immediate action be taken against those responsible for this agitation and the building be returned to the Ahmadi Community in accordance with the law.

He further said that the community had written to various high-ranking government officials requesting
that the place of worship be returned to them. However, so far there has been no response.

Note: This deprivation for Ahmadis of their place of worship is one incident in a long list of 170 such mentionable incidents whereby Ahmadiyya worship places met regretful maltreatment at the hands of the state and the society. Briefly: (From 1984 onward)

- Number of Ahmadiyya mosques demolished 29
- Number of Ahmadiyya mosques sealed by the authorities 40
- Number of Ahmadiyya mosques set on fire or damaged 25
- Number of Ahmadiyya mosques forcibly occupied 18
- Number of Ahmadiyya mosques, construction of which was barred by the authorities 59

Ahmadis’ graves desecrated by police

Chak 2/TDA, District Khushab; 27-28 February, 2020: On 27/28 February night the police demolished three gravestones in the Ahmadiyya cemetery of Chak 2 TDA, District Khushab.

According to details, Syed Ali Ather Bukhari president Anjuman Tahaffuze Namus Risalat submitted an application against Mr. Sultan Mahmood (President of the local Ahmadiyya community), Rana Rafiq Ahmad (an official of the local Ahmadiyya community) and some other anonymous Ahmadis, to the Deputy Commissioner of Khushab stating that Ahmadis have committed blasphemy by writing Islamic epithets ‘Bismillah’, Sahabi, Ya Allah (O Allah), Ya Muhammad (O Muhammad pbuh) on their gravestones. The DC referred the matter to the SHO Mitha Tiwana. The SHO sent for Ahmadis on February 19, 2020 to explain. Ahmadis told him that these are very old gravestones. The SHO sent his report to the DC accordingly. The SHO again sent for Ahmadis on February 28. On their way to the police station they learnt that the police had already demolished the gravestones of three Ahmadis the night before. The SHO told Ahmadis that he had done it with the help of the local chief.

The gravestones of Rana Saifur Rahman, Mrs. Mussarat Bano and Rana Anayatullah were desecrated. There are 6 Ahmadi families in this village. There are fifteen graves of Ahmadis in the Ahmadiyya cemetery. A while ago the local administration handed over the Ahmadiyya mosque to non-Ahmadis despite the fact that the case was already in process in a court.

The SHO also informed that a similar application has also been received against the Ahmadiyya cemetery of Rodah. More than 100 graves of Ahmadis are found there.

It is worth mentioning that the applicant is son of mulla Athar Hussain Shah, a staunch anti-Ahmadiyya opponent who was the main perpetrator of anti-Ahmadiyya riots in Takht Hazara in which five Ahmadis were killed. He also remained very active against Ahmadis in District Khushab till his death.

Ahmadi boy brutally killed by neighbors

Shahdara, Lahore; February 27, 2020: An eleven-year old Ahmadi boy Tanzeel Ahmad Butt son of Aqeel Ahmad Butt was killed by neighbors on February 27, 2020 in Shahdara,
Lahore. The victim’s corpse was found in a steel trunk in the neighbor’s apartment.

Tanzeel’s mother sent him to the neighbors to get back his sister’s doll which she had forgotten there. After a long wait, his mother went herself to neighbor’s house. At first, they did not open the door, but after repeated calls they opened it. When the mother asked about her son, the neighbor woman expressed no knowledge. At this they exchanged harsh words. This neighboring tenant family lives on the first floor while the landlady lives with her son on the ground floor. The tenant woman called her husband from the job.

Some Ahmadis and Tanzeel’s relatives also arrived at the site. They checked CCTV footage and found no sign of Tanzeel coming out of that house. This increased their suspicion. The police were informed. The police came over and after interrogation recovered the child’s dead body from a trunk. The child appeared to be brutally tortured to death. A cloth was stuffed in his mouth, and his head was bleeding. Before the police arrived, the tenant woman had tried to shift the trunk from the first floor to the ground floor so that the deceased could be later shifted elsewhere, but this could not be done due to people gathered outside.

The killer’s husband in his initial statement to the police alleged that the boy had sexually harassed his daughter about one and half year ago. This is absurd, as the victim was only nine and half year then.

The police arrested the woman and her husband.

After the incident when the locals visited the deceased’s family for sympathy the landlady repeatedly told the locals that these people (the deceased’s family) were atheists.

The incident reminds us of the mulla who on December 12, 2013 told his audience in Wara, District Larkana, “Ahmadis are Wajib-ul-qatl. I shall bear all the expenses of any Muslim who kills them, and assure him release within a month.”

**Religion’s increasing importance in government service**

**Islamabad:** Almost all educated people in Pakistan know the founding father’s guideline: “Everyone of you, no matter to what community he belongs, …no matter what is his color, caste or creed is first, second and last a citizen of this State with equal rights, privileges and obligations… You are free, you are free to go to your temples, you are free to go to your mosques or any other places of worship…”

“You may belong to any religion or caste or creed that has nothing to do with the business of the State….We are starting with this fundamental principle that we are all citizens and equal citizens of one State.” *Address to the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan on 11 August 1947*

However 70 years later, some officials of the state think they are wiser than Quaid-i-Azam; the superiors of the Airport Security Force are surely among them. A recent
application form for joining the Force requires the applicants to provide the following information regarding himself, *inter alia*:

- Faith: Muslim or Non Muslim
- Religion to be specified by Non-Muslims
- Denomination (*firqwa*)
- Caste

One wonders what relevance, importance and purpose these bits of information have for recruitment in the ASF. We were told clearly, solemnly and bindingly by the great founding father: *"You may belong to any religion or caste or creed that has nothing to do with the business of the state."*

Copy of the Application Form is reproduced at Annex to this report.

**Ahmadi’s shop set on fire**

*Mustafa Abad, District Kasur; February 16, 2020:* Mr. Ghulam Nabi, president of the local Ahmadiyya community, runs a furniture shop. On February 16, he painted some of the furniture items and slept inside the shop leaving the door open for ventilation against paint fumes. At about midnight four unknown masked men entered the shop, beat up Mr. Ghulam Nabi and set the furniture on fire. They said, “We told you earlier to close down this shop; we do not let Qadianis do business here”. The electric wires got damaged and lights went off. At this, they went away. Mr. Nabi extinguished the fire with help of some other people. The fire caused considerable damage and loss.

A few days earlier, some unknown motorcyclists came to Mr. Nabi’s shop and threatened him with reference to his faith. The police were informed of the incident and they gave security assurance. The police were informed again after the arson.

**Ahmadi student under threat**

*Islamia University, Bahawalpur; 6th February, 2020:* Miss Tooba Azhar, an Ahmadi student of Psychology in Islamia University, Bahawalpur is resident of Khadija Hostel there. She was sent for by her teachers. On arrival she found five lecturers in the room. They asked her, “Are you a Qadiani/Ahmadi?” In reply Miss Azhar said, “Yes I am an Ahmadi”. To this the lecturers told her that as such she was an infidel and she would have to embrace Islam otherwise there would be lot of difficulties for her. Furthermore, she was told to convert into a Muslim by the evening, otherwise she would not be able to pass the exams.

Miss Azhar told the whole story to her father who then met the Assistant to the Vice Chancellor who assured him full cooperation. Later the matter was resolved peacefully—for the present, anyway.

**Extremism promoted in educational institutes**

*Muridkay, Distt. Sheikhupura; January 31, 2020:* Alnoor Group of Colleges and Academies organized there a Khatme Nabuwwat conference on January 31, 2020. This academy is a prestigious one and approximately 1200 male and female students study in it.

Mulla Irfan Mahmood Barq and Qari Zawar Hussain were invited to speak. They made anti-Ahmadiyya speeches of one hour each separately for male and female students. They levelled baseless allegations against the leaders of the Ahmadiyya community and incited the audience against Ahmadis. The issue was advertised on social media. A number of
Ahmadi students are also registered in this campus.

Situation became rather tense for Ahmadi students after the conference. All Ahmadi students were questioned about their faith the next day. A first year female student was asked by her teacher to become a Muslim. Similarly, a male student Nayab Ahmad of first year faced hostility. The college administration called his friend Ahmad Raza and told him to distance himself from Nayab. Consequently, even Raza could not go to the campus for a few days.

A while ago an Ahmadi teacher was fired from the same campus for his faith.

**Construction of an Ahmadiyya center barred and courtyard destroyed**

*Mirpur Khas, Sindh; February 22, 2020:* Ahmadis bought a plot here for their mosque and other community purposes about 19 years ago. For certain reasons no construction was undertaken. Recently, Ahmadis decided to build its surrounding walls; so construction work was started on February 22, 2020. The wall had reached four feet height when a man named Kamran came there, made a video and went away. At about 4 p.m. some mullas along with approximately twenty men came there. They made a tumult, enforced a stop to construction and destroyed the wall. Meanwhile media persons arrived and started making a video. The mullas told them that Qadianis were building their mosque here and they would not let them build that, and threatened bloodshed. After about an hour the mullas went away.

Thereafter, agencies and police personnel arrived, talked to the contractor Abdul Razaq Baloch and went back. After that, some youth came to the site and threatened the contractor for giving their names to the police. At this, he replied, “The police came here due to your tumult and they asked for the names of participants; we did not call the police. You demanded a stop to the construction and we’ve done that. Now if you still talk of harm then I would report to the police. If I come to any harm, you will be responsible for that.” At this they left.

The issue is still alive. Ahmadis await if the authorities provide them freedom of worship as required by law and the Constitution.

**Faith-based ultra-hostility**

*Model Colony, Karachi; February 2020:* Mr. Waseem Abbas decided to join Ahmadiyyat eight years ago. He faced severe hostility at home. His father is a lawyer by profession and much inspired by the precept of Khatme Nabuwat. He stopped talking to his son. He invited a few mullas to talk to his son. He handed over Mr. Abbas’s important personal documents like Nikah Form, passport, the will etc to a local mulla. Recently he brought along two mullas who threatened Abbas with police action etc. They advised the father to forget that Waseem Abbas was his son. In these circumstances his mother discreetly helped her son to flee from the house.

**Ahmadiyya mosque under threat in Punjab capital**

*Johar Town, Lahore; February 2020:* The local Ahmadiyya community is facing problems at the hands of anti-Ahmadiyya elements, in holding on to their place of worship, for a long time. In March 2017 opponents lodged an application with Lahore High Court alleging that Ahmadis had built the mosque illegally. Another such application was made by Mr. Ihsan ul Haq, a member of the banned Jamaat ud Dawa. The court referred the case to the Deputy Commissioner (DC). The DC heard both the parties and referred the case back to a court. Maulvi Ihsanul Haq (a neighbor of the Ahmadiyya mosque), Maulvi Laeeq Deobandi, Mulla Hassan Muawiyah and Sheikh Nasir, a local, are active in this anti-Ahmadiyya
campaign. Many a times the opponents called the police; sometimes objecting to the CCTV cameras of the mosque, at other times regarding NOC of the mosque, etc. Now after the decision of the DC, the opponents have again put up an application to the high court.

The SHO sent for the Ahmadiyya delegation on February 1, 2020. He told the delegation that opponents have complained that outsiders are still coming to the Ahmadiyya mosque. He also said that opponents are trying to link the incident of the burning of the Holy Quran near Kanz Iman Mosque with the Ahmadiyya community. He also told Mr. Zeeshan Ahmad Rana, local president of the Ahmadiyya community, that all this wrangle is because of him and it is dangerous for him to go there. He also threatened that he would issue detention order of Mr. Rana if he did not cooperate.

Till now the state and the bigots in society have defiled, damaged, destroyed, sealed, handed over to non-Ahmadis, set on fire, forbade the construction of 170 Ahmadi places of worship—an unbelievable figure.

The lawyers and Khatme Nabuwwat

Dera Ismail Khan; February 22, 2020: We have received copy of a hand bill circulated by the District Bar Association, Dera Ismail Khan about a Khatme Nabuwwat (KN) seminar organized by them in Shuja Hall on February 22, 2020 at 11 a.m. All the lawyers were requested to participate. Mulas Muhammad Asif, Hussain Ahmad Irfan etc. were expected to address. “Moths of the candle of end of prophethood are appealed to join in,” the handbill urged.

It is interesting that this professional association of lawyers finds little to talk about other than the KN. For them, apparently the issues of rule of law, constitution, enforcement of laws, fundamental freedoms, democratic development, rights of the disadvantaged, social and economic rights, bar, bench, human rights, administration of justice, death penalty, enforced disappearances, education, democracy, environment, etc have all been satisfactorily settled, while the End of Prophethood which is primarily the territory of clerics deserves special support from the lawyers’ community.

Three cheers for the leaders of the District Bar of Dera Ismail Khan!

Harassment of Ahmadis in Lahore

Jamaat Ali town, Lahore; February 2020: Three Ahmadi families reside in Ali Town, Lahore. A few days earlier, a marriage ceremony was held by one of the families. The mulla of the local mosque mobilized non-Ahmadi residents of the neighborhood against Ahmadis through his Friday sermon. An Ahmadi family which intended to participate in the ceremony was told that they being Mirzaies (pejorative term used for Ahmadis) and not Muslims should convert to Islam. A youth who is a student in a Tahir ul Qadri madrassah is very active in this anti-
Ahmadi campaign. Ahmadis had to take steps to remain unharmed.

**Business and bigots**

*Lahore; February 19, 2020:* Mr. Ayaz Nazir, an Ahmadi shop-keeper of Lahore recently had a dispute with his neighbor in the market over a closed shutter next to his shop. Mr. Nazir had an agreement with the market-union that the neighbor would not open up the disputed shutter. On 11\(^{th}\) Feb 2020 the neighbor brought along 100 persons, broke the locks of the closed shutter and opened it. When Mr. Nazir objected to the violation of the agreement, the opponents tried to develop a brawl with him, his brother and his father, and involve religion in the dispute. A mulla urged the crowd to oppose Mr. Nazir as he was an Ahmadi. Mr. Nazir thereby had to call the police who took both the parties to the police station, where the issue was settled.

**The Mulla’s service to the Holy Quran—fit for archives**

*Chiniot; February 2020:* Mulla Hassan Muawiyah, based in Lahore is a full-time anti-Ahmadi activist. He is a brother of Mulla Tahir Ashrafi who is influential in official circles. Muawiyah has a criminal record and was placed in the Fourth Schedule in the past. He has formed a Khatme Nabuwwat Lawyers’ Forum and has plenty of spare time to take Ahmadis to courts with the help of bigots in state service. In the past few months he has successfully harassed a number of Ahmadis whom he could accuse of indulging in study of the Holy Quran. Most recently, he again sent an application to DPO Chiniot alleging that Ahmadis continue to publish and promote corrupted translations (sic) of the Holy Quran; Ahmadis plan to hold a Talim-ul-Quran Week, 7-13 February 2020, in which they would not only distribute corrupted translations of the Holy Quran, but also deliver lectures in the form of Dars. As these would not be limited to Chiniot only, but all over Pakistan, the Ahmadiyya Director General and Director Education should be restrained, the (teaching) material be confiscated and the composer, printer and publisher should be prosecuted. Such orders have been issued earlier by the Lahore High Court, he asserted.

It is relevant to mention here that the police, more than once in the past, have investigated and reported to high judicial and administration authorities that Ahmadis no longer print or publish the Holy Quran or its translations as required by law.

Mulla Muawiyah finds it very convenient to spend a 100 rupees (67 cents) to produce and forward a few copies of his application to the High Court and high police functionaries to set an unworthy exercise in crazy motion. The future will not remember him fondly—perhaps disown him completely.

**Ahmadi detained over little**

*Jameel Town, Lahore; February 13, 2020:* Mr. Nauman Saeed, an Ahmadi resident of Jameel Town, Lahore was detained by police and taken away on February 13, 2020. It was learnt that the police suspected him to be involved in an abduction. Mr. Saeed knew nothing about the case. The police released him thereafter. The incident caused avoidable stress and worry to the victim and his family.

**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 was then made to the Lahore High Court. The Court has not found time to hear them for two years. These three Ahmadis are in prison for over 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 for two years.

3. Mr. Waqar Ahmad student of Jamia Ahmadiyya, Syed Mubashir Ahmad Ayaz Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya and Mr. Muhammad Azhar Mangla lecturer in Jamia Ahmadiyya were booked for sharing Quranic material on social media under cyber crime law on 12th November 2019, with FIR No 152/2019 of Police Station FIA Cyber Crime Wing, Lahore under anti-Ahmadiyya law PPC 298-C, blasphemy laws 295-B and 295-A, PECA-11 and PPCs 120-B, 109 and 34. Mr. Waqar Ahmad was arrested and investigation is underway.

From the media

- Qadianiat is the worst Fitna (mischief) in the whole world: AMTKN
  The daily Islam; Lahore, February 26, 2020
- Chenab Nagar’s sewer system has become most troublesome for the residents
  The daily Islam; Lahore, February 10, 2020
- Suicide attack claims eight lives in Quetta
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 18, 2020
- Tense situation prevails as Maulana Aziz occupies Lal Masjid
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 8, 2020
- No personal enmity against Qadianis if they accept Islam; we’ll embrace them: Maulana Dr. Ahmad Ali Siraj, Secretary General IKNM
  The daily Jang; Lahore, February 27, 2020
- Seminary teacher’s ‘torture’ kills 10-year-old student
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 24, 2020
- Hafiz Saeed jailed for terror financing
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 13, 2020
- Freedom of expression can’t be curbed: CJ (LHC)
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 28, 2020
- Our minorities are equal citizens of our country. We shall deal firmly with those who target non-Muslim citizens or their places of worship: Prime Minister
  The daily Jang; Lahore, February 27, 2020
- Minorities have all the rights in Pakistan: US Consul General
  The daily Jang; Lahore, February 23, 2020
- 39 dead in Delhi riots
  The daily Jang; Lahore, February 29, 2020
- German far-right arrest reveal plot to attack mosques
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 18, 2020
- Modi wows to build ‘grand’ temple at Babri mosque site
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 6, 2020
- Two ex-CMs of held Kashmir rearrested
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 8, 2020
- Social media curbs set-back to Pakistan, says Wells (US Chief diplomat for South Asia)
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 26, 2020
- World should speak up for women of held Kashmir, says PM
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 24, 2020
- Imran warns world against surge of Hindu nationalism in India
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 18, 2020
- Pakistan voices alarm at India-US defense accord
  The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 28, 2020
- Historic agreement to be signed today by the US and Taliban
  The daily Jang; Lahore, February 29, 2020
- 41 Turkish troops dead in Syria and Libya; emergency imposed in Turkey
  The daily Jang; Lahore, February 29, 2020
- Tanzania anti-gay force official Paul Makonda banned from US (his immediate family members too)
  BBC News at 5:40 p.m. on February 01, 2020

BBC News at 5:40 p.m. on February 01, 2020
Lal Masjid standoff ends with 20-kanal land offer
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 10, 2020*

Nawaz declared ‘absconder’ for violating bail terms
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 26, 2020*

A few MPs have deposited a document with the Senate Secretariat demanding 400 percent increase in the pays of Chairman Senate, Deputy Chairman, Speaker NA and the Deputy Speaker, as also 100 percent increase in pays of all MNAs and senators.
*Ansar Abbasi’s report in the daily Jang of February 2, 2020*

Outcry over NA call for abusers’ public hanging
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 8, 2020*

PU clash leaves 10 guards, 8 students injured
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 29, 2020*

Man held for ‘blasphemy’ (over burning pages of the Holy Quran)
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 1, 2020*

Respirators disappear from twin cities markets with confirmation of first corona virus patient
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 28, 2020*

The family of dead public servant entitled to full pension: Lahore High Court
*The daily Jang; Lahore, February 28, 2020*

Two cases confirmed of coronavirus in Pakistan
*The daily Express; Faisalabad, February 27, 2020*

19 die as train slams into bus near Rohri
*The daily Dawn; Lahore, February 29, 2020*

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**Op-ed: Defining extremism**
The power of this language of extremism is apparent in legal outcomes here as well. As Irfan Hussain recently noted on these pages, the treatment of liberals (detention, harassment, sedition charges) is more appropriate to that of extremists, while extremists are rewarded with cash, land, media coverage and prestige. Rethinking how we define extremism with a focus on mindset, approach and social outcome may be our only option to course correct now.
*(By Huma Yusuf in the daily Dawn, February 24, 2020)*

**Op-ed: Why Pakistan loses its best?**
Two weeks ago Pakistan’s only well-known mathematician left for the Western world. He has no plans to return. Since the country has no real mathematicians—a bare half a dozen or less—the loss was huge. But who cares? Preoccupied by politics of the boot, busy gorging imported luxury products, and feverishly preparing for travel to the hereafter, our moribund culture is indifferent to maths or physics.

... Pakistan universities—all of them—are cesspools of political filth and intrigue. In a system with perverted values and nonsensical selection criteria, duffers who fail at all else become landed university professors. Today they rule the roost. Even if Pakistan somehow attracts back its best and brightest from foreign lands, they will soon leave unless our universities can be made to respect the rule of law and operate on principles of strict merit, fair play and transparency. It is hard to see how any of these conditions can be met in the near future.
*Dr. Pervez Hoodbhoy in the Dawn of February 1, 2020*
On Twitter:

Imran Khan @ImranKhanPTI · 28 Feb
Replying to @ImranKhanPTI
Images coming out of Muslim homes & businesses being burnt, Muslims being beaten & killed, mosques & graveyards being burnt & desecrated are similar to Jews fleeing the pogrom in Nazi Germany. The world must accept this brutal reality of the Modi fascist racist regime & stop it.

Dr Irfan Malik @dr_iiran_malik · 28 Feb
Dumail #Pakistan extremist attack on Ahmadi Muslim Mosque (Dec 2016)

Annex: Recruitment form
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**Translation of circled entries:** Religion — Muslim — Non-Muslim; Faith, if Non-Muslim; Denomination