

Plight of Rabwah

2019

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 the 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 and freedom.

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

Press report on plight of Rabwah

Rabwah; June 25, 2019: We translate below a report from the daily *Ausaf*, Lahore of June 25, 2019, to place on record the state of this town, the centre of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan:

Sewerage system in Chenab Nagar has become highly troublesome

The contractor has fled; dirt, dust and mud make residents’ lives miserable

Chenab Nagar (Ausaf reporter): The sewerage system of Chenab Nagar has become highly troublesome (*Wabal e jaan*) for the public. The contractor has fled; dirt, dust and mud have made residents’ lives miserable. Even after a year, main roads are in bad shape, without repairs. Children face great difficulty in walking to their schools. The sanitation is poorest of the past three decades. Ineffective rules are an impediment to the solution of local problems. The sanitation staff remains absent for months from wards. On a visit they attend only to clear the drainage; removal of litter is not undertaken. As nullahs are not cleaned up, the sewage system gets badly choked. To make it worse, the extremely unsatisfactory sewerage scheme launched by the Punjab Public Health Department has added to the harm. Often, drainage motors are not in working order, as a result the sewage overflows and the streets become like canals. Bazaars, streets and roads become problematic for pedestrians, especially school children. Accumulated ponds of foul smelling sewage make respiration awful.

