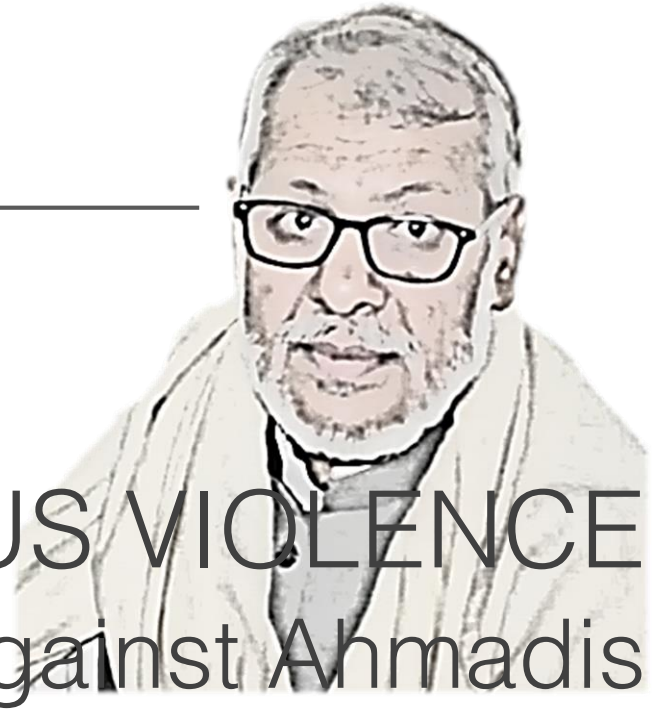


Spate of

# MURDEROUS VIOLENCE against Ahmadis

Mr. Mairaj Ahmad, a victim



***Peshawar and other cities; August 2020:*** Mr. Mairaj Ahmad, Ahmadi of Peshawar was shot dead at about 9 p.m. on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 by unidentified assassins, near his business. He was a well-known practicing Ahmadi of good reputation. He had received threats in the recent past and faced hostile propaganda on Facebook. This was reported to the authorities.



***Mr. Mairaj Ahmad dead body lying on the road, soon after his brutal killing in Peshawar***

Mr. Mairaj Ahmad was 61. He left behind a widow, three sons and one daughter studying medicine.

A few days earlier, Mr. Tahir Naseem, presumed to be Ahmadi, facing blasphemy charge was murdered in a court room in Peshawar in the presence of the judge. He had in fact committed no blasphemy but claimed to be a prophet and a reformer. He was a U.S. citizen. His murder was upheld by some mullas and some far-right elements. Hardly any high-level state authority condemned the ghastly murder. The incident was mentioned in the National Assembly; we describe it briefly near the end of this story.

On August 11, 2020, Sheikh Nasir Ahmad, Ahmadi of Lala Musa, District Gujrat, Punjab was shot at 21:30 hr by unidentified attackers, when he was walking back home from the bazaar. The attackers achieved four hits and fled from the scene of crime. He was rushed to a hospital where he fortunately survived, although his fracture in pelvis will take time to heal. The injury has severely affected his movements.

On 12 August 2020, the house of Syed Naeem Ahmad Bashir in Sahiwal, District Sargodha, Punjab was attacked at night. Gunman fired bullets expecting the family to be asleep in

the courtyard, as is the practice in the Punjab in this season. The family survived because they were not sleeping there, otherwise many might have been killed.

Mr. Saleemuddin, Director Public Affairs of the Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan said in a tweet:

“This is not random, but (a) well-planned campaign.” He tweeted further, “After this violence, we fear more bloodshed will happen. The community feels ever more vulnerable and insecure now because the Govt, its ministers (and the) state are clearly playing with our lives, without any consideration about consequences.”

Mr. Saleemuddin is of the opinion that all this is the result of anti-Ahmadi hate campaign, and his grave concern is well-founded. For instance, Mr. Ali Muhammad Khan, a federal minister of state released a video statement: “Qadianiat basically is great mischief (*Fitna*) against Islam...We are soldiers of *Khatme Nabuwwat* (End of Prophethood) and *Shane Risalat* (Honor of Messengership).” UCAnews quoted him: “Beheading is the only punishment for those who mock Prophet Muhammad.”

(ucanews.com/news/Pakistan-minister-calls)



**Mr. Azam Swati**

Another federal minister Mr. Azam Swati stated in public last year in November: “I curse them (Ahmadis), and Imran Khan also curses Qadianiat.”

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NN8ICRH-iWo>)

Similarly, Hafiz Tahir Ashrafi, President of the official Ulama Board Punjab asserted in an open multi-religion meeting: “.... I am not willing to accept them in the country...To speak against Qadianis is Religious Harmony.”(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRBPSs QhDj0>)

International Human Rights Committee UK rightly called these murders and murder attempts ruthless and brutal. It pointed out that the

murderer who committed the atrocity in the court room “is being hailed in Pakistan as an Islamic hero, and he openly announced that he has killed a Qadiani (Ahmadi).” “The state is complicit in this, resulting in killing of Ahmadis on the basis of their faith, belief and practice,” suggested their Press Release on August 13, 2020.

On this issue (murder of the presumed Ahmadi) what happened in the National Assembly on 12 August, 2020 merits special mention, even if briefly. Syed Imran Ahmad



**MNA Imran Ahmad Shah from Sahiwal, addressing the chair during a session of National Assembly**

Shah of PML-N is a senior MNA in the Assembly; he addressed the incident in the full session, expressed his solidarity with the killer and his act based on his love of the Prophet, and demanded:

- Ghazi Faisal (the killer) should be immediately released through a Presidential Ordinance, in view of his great service to Islam.
- If that is not done, then the law of *Diyyat* (Shariah provision in certain cases, to pay compensation to the victim or his/her heirs in lieu of pardon to the perpetrator) should be applied **and the state should pay the Diyyat.** (Emphasis added)
- If both these demands are not met, then I and millions like me are ready to pay the amount. I am ready to pay his *Diyyat*, even if I have to sell my entire property” he added. (*Some cheers*). He mentioned Ali Muhammad Khan (PTI, Minister of State) and Junaid Anwaar MNA (PML-N) and “many others” who would join him in the scheme to bear this expense.



**Speaker National assembly Mr. Asad Qaiser presiding the session of National Assembly**

At this, the Speaker Mr. Asad Qaisar, presiding over the Session, concluded with the following words (translated from Urdu):

***“Mr. Imran, do one thing...you, Masha Allah, have said something of great merit, and played the role of a lover of the Holy Prophet (Aashiq-i-Rasul). I request you to move a Bill or an Amendment that will help us solve this issue in law, or if there is any shortcoming (Suqqam) in law that will be removed. Thank you.”***  
[youtube.com/watch?v=OYJIZIS78PQ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYJIZIS78PQ8)

It is nearly incredible that the Speaker of a National Assembly would ask for suggestions for legislation to help a murderer who killed a victim in a court room in front of the judge, while the victim had not yet been found guilty of blasphemy. Such discussions and their approval by the chair is misuse of democracy and an insult to it. It is most likely that the future legislators would wish that their predecessors had not provided such record for the archives. It is not surprising that a governor, a high court judge, a prominent lawyer and numerous others from the civil society have been murdered in Pakistan by such ‘pious’ killers. Luminaries like Imran Ahmad Shah and Asad Qaisar seem to encourage such pious acts to continue in future as well.

Subsequent to the murder of Mr. Mairaj Ahmad there was a penal discussion in program ‘Zara hut kay’ of Dawn News. Mr. Wusatullah Khan, a well-known journalist expressed his views on the issue and displayed someone’s tweet that conveyed:

**“...Qadiani problem is now being rightly, timely and promptly solved. Alhamdulillah (All praise to Allah). Another Qadiani killed in Peshawar city. Wait for some more. Do share this post and like my page.”**

Mr. Khan displayed another post dated May 6 on social media, that showed the interior of Shiraz Medico (sic), the store owned by Mr. Mairaj Ahmad, with his son minding it. The originator told his viewers that the Medico belonged to a *Zindique* (apostate) and a Kafir. “Boycott this business. One who does not believe Qadianis to be Kafir, is himself a *Kafir*,” he wrote. The originator named himself on twitter “I Love my Pakistan”. Mr. Khan mentioned the National Assembly speech of Mr. Imran Ahmad Shah MNA and commented: “These are the people who have taken the oath of safeguarding the constitution and lives of the citizens.” (Note: It is learnt that there is a little confusion about the Medical Store, as there are two medical stores in the locality owned by two cousins, both Ahmadis).

It is astonishing that while the Cyber Crimes Wing of FIA is hyperactive in arresting



**Mr. Wusatullah Khan(left) during the recording of program ‘Zara hut kay’**

Ahmadis in the Punjab who allegedly use social media to indulge in promoting research in the understanding of the Holy Quran, it looks the other way in KPK for weeks when sectarian hate-mongers display posts that incite viewers to indulge in gross criminal activities in the name of religion and country.

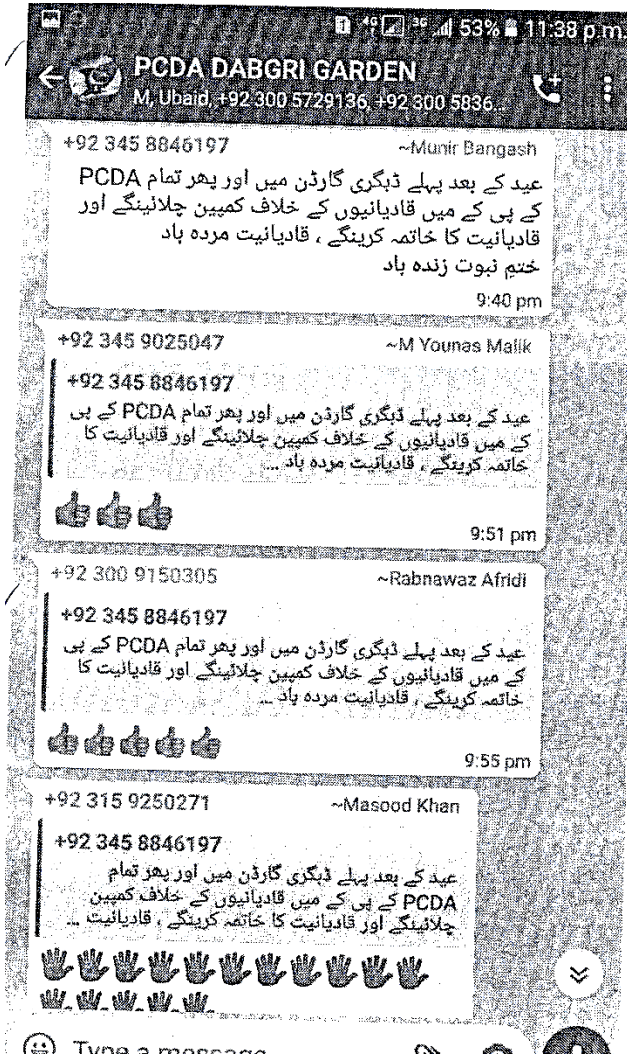
It is obvious through some viral images that the murder of Mr. Mairaj Ahmad is result of a planned campaign on social media and especially on WhatsApp chat groups. Members of these groups openly declared to “exterminate

**Qadianiat in Dabgari Gardens after Eid”,** and sure enough Mr. Mairaj Ahmad was murdered in Dabgari, 11 days after Eid. These planners and accomplices are named (1) Munir Bangash (#0345-8846197), (2) M. Younus Malik (#0345-9025047), (3) Rabnawaz Afridi (#0300-9150305), (4) Masood Khan (#0315-9250271) of PCDA DABGRI GARDEN and (5) Musanif Muhammad (#0302-9242993) — Mutahida Dabgari Garden. Now it is up to the investigating police to include these individuals in their inquiry (*shamil tafteesh*).

**Chawinda, District Sialkot; August 15, 2020:** A police case was registered under anti-Ahmadi clause PPC 298-C and the blasphemy clause 295-A — against Mr. Waheed Ahmad Butt, an Ahmadi, for allegedly preaching his faith and insulting the tenets of Islam. The accused was arrested by the police.

It is learned that, on August 15, Mr. Butt, 62 years old, was discussing international politics with a non-Ahmadi friend at his junk shop. The discussion turned to the likely future of Makka and Jerusalem. At this, the interlocutor became angry and started shouting. A crowd assembled.

The police were informed. They registered a criminal case against Mr. Butt and raided his house. He was not at home; so the police detained his son Wajahat Ahmad, a school boy. Later they arrested Mr. Butt and released his son.



Finally, “Pakistan now ranks as the seventh most dangerous country in the world for religious minorities”, wrote Mr. Zafar Aziz Chaudhry in the *Daily Times* of July 21, 2020.

*Note: For initial report on Mr. Naseem’s murder in the court room please read the lead story in our Report for July 2020.*