

Human Rights Monitor 2012-13

A report on the
**Religious
Minorities**
in Pakistan

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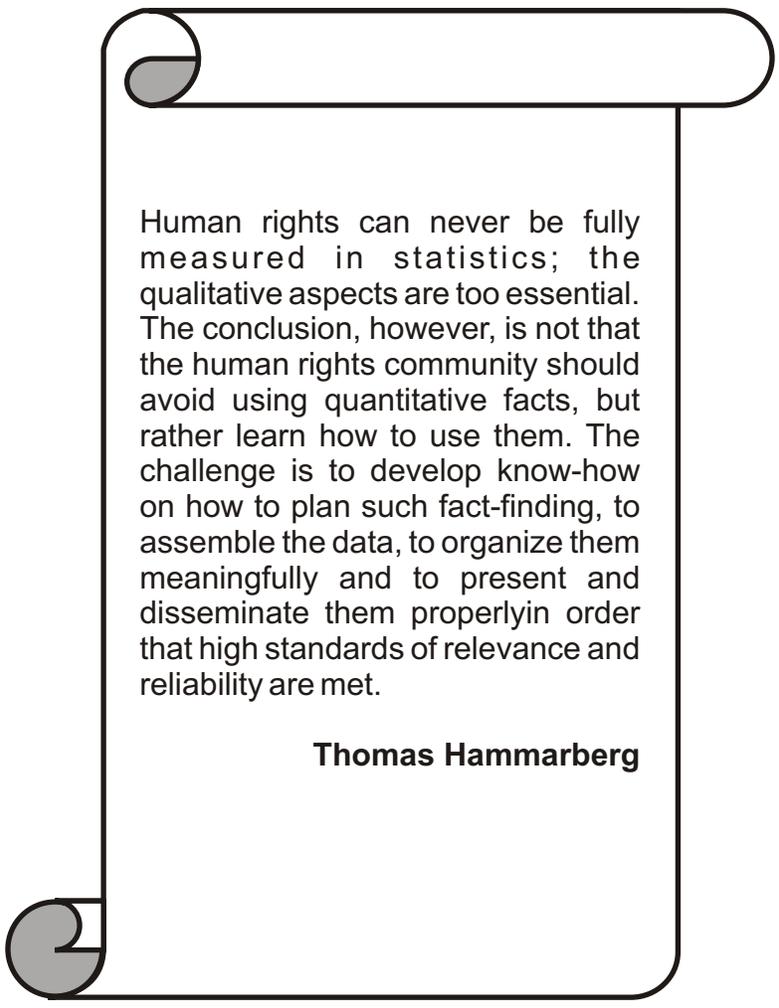
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Acronyms/Meaning

AHRC:	Asian Human Rights Commission.
ATA:	Anti Terrorist Court.
ASI:	Assistant Sub Inspector
AFP:	Agence France Presse.
Bazaar:	Market.
CLAAS:	Center for Legal Aid Assistance and Assistance.
CSO:	Civil Society Organization.
Chak:	A village settlement.
DIG :	Deputy Inspector General of Police.
DCO:	District Coordinator officer.
FIR:	First Information Report.
FIA:	Federal Investigation Agency.
KPK:	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. (Province in Pakistan)
MBBS:	Bachelors in Medicine and Surgery.
Madrassa:	Islamic Seminary.
MPA:	Member of Provincial Assembly.
Masih:	Christ, part of the names of many Christians to show their religious identity.
MPO:	Maintenance of Public Order.
NWFP:	North West Frontier Province.
NCSW:	National Commission on the Status of Women.
NCJP:	National Commission for Justice and Peace.
Mohallah:	Street.
Muharram:	Muharram is the first month of the Islamic calendar.
OSD:	Officer on Special Duty.
PML-N:	Pakistan Muslim League- Nawaz.
PBUH:	Peace be upon Him.
PPC:	Pakistan Penal Code.
PPP:	Pakistan People's Party.
PCP:	Pakistan Christian Post.
SI:	Sub Inspector.
Shariat:	The body of doctrines that regulate the lives of those who profess Islam.
Sunnah:	Sunnah is the way of life prescribed as normative for Muslims on the basis of the teachings and practices of Muhammad and interpretations of the Quran.
SSP:	Senior Superintendent of Police.
SP:	Superintendent of Police.
RPO	Regional Police officer.
TA:	Telegraph Act.
WVIP:	World Vision in Progress.



Human rights can never be fully measured in statistics; the qualitative aspects are too essential. The conclusion, however, is not that the human rights community should avoid using quantitative facts, but rather learn how to use them. The challenge is to develop know-how on how to plan such fact-finding, to assemble the data, to organize them meaningfully and to present and disseminate them properly in order that high standards of relevance and reliability are met.

Thomas Hammarberg

Editor's Note

By articulating the case of religious minorities in documenting the Human Rights Monitor report during past 15 years one has tried to see what Pakistan should be like. The bright side of the picture though still vague kindles hope that we shall overcome the obstacles someday and discriminations will not be a norm in the society and the governance of Pakistan.

Peaceful, prosperous and dignified existence is shared dream of human beings whereas materializing this dream has been possible through living by sound principles and strong commitment. Theories and practices based on discrimination will not succeed in 21st century human civilization characterized by massive exchange of information and much more openness. In fact there is ample proof that the countries have only become stronger after they established regimes based on equality of citizens, irrespective of their origin and orientation.

The countries that used human rights framework for socio-political transformation successfully improved quality of life of their citizens. Unfortunately Pakistan has not moved fast enough to bridge gaps and remove discrepancies in the law and policy. Setting up human rights institutions has been delayed. A stronger commitment and effort on part of all stakeholders, social, political is necessary to fasten the process of change in undemocratic policies, laws and practices.

Due to circumstances during 2011- 2012 this issue of Human Rights Monitor spans over two years, rather than one year. However as every challenge brings an opportunity, this issue adds some comparisons, data analysis and elaborate reportage on the important issues.

Pointing out the sad, dark side usually wins no praise, especially with the stakeholders on the opposite side and the people in power. Among other blessings Pakistan has a vibrant civil society, the forces for change in this paradox are strong and therefore all along it has been a meaningful struggle.

I would like to thank colleagues and volunteers who invested their energies in fact finding, responding to injustices, my staff members, especially Mr. Christopher Augustine and Mr. Bunny Edward Advocate who compiled, analyzed and processed data with me.

Peter Jacob

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Social Discrimination and Religious Intolerance

Legal framework of non-discrimination

Declaration on the rights of persons belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

No one shall be subject to coercion, which would impair his freedom to have a religion or belief of his choice. No one shall be subject to discrimination by any state, institution, group of persons on the grounds of religion or other beliefs. **Article 1 (2) and 2 (1)**

Persons belonging to minorities may exercise their rights, including those set forth in the present Declaration, individually as well as in community with other members of their group, without any discrimination. **Article 3 (1)**

Constitution of Pakistan

Provision as to Property

Every citizen shall have the rights to acquire, hold and dispose off property in any part of Pakistan, subject to the Constitution and reasonable restriction imposed by law in the public interest.

Article 23

Parochial and others similar prejudices to be discouraged

The state shall discourage parochial, racial, tribal, sectarian and provincial prejudices among the citizens.

Article 33

Protection of minorities

The state shall safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of minorities, including their due representation in the federal and provincial services.

Article 36

Definition

Two main International Human Rights treaties dealing with discriminations, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the Convention on the

Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, define the phenomenon as any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life.

Breadth and length

Social discriminations on the basis of race and religion are historical in societies including South Asia. The countries with democratic dispensation have struggled successfully to lay off this historical baggage through political discourses, legislative measures, cultural activity, etc. Pakistan as a new nation in the 20th century stood better chances of eliminating discriminations against socially marginalized however we were short of initiatives in this respect. The political adventures, on the other hand, put in operation to build unity by eliminating ethnic, linguistic, cultural and religious diversity, breed intolerance on wide scale and enhanced vulnerability of socially weak groups.

Religious minorities in Pakistan by and large happen to be ethnically distinct groups also. That increased the occurrence and proportionality of discriminations, especially when the legislation in the name of religion during 70s and 80s broadened the scope of discrimination on the basis of religion.

With the situation at hand, the democratically elected Federal and Provincial governments (2008-2013) choose to address the issue indirectly. The approach under use was about creating political space and mainstreaming religious minorities to address the social marginalization.

Pakistan Muslim League (N) brushed away the criticism that followed the appointment of Mr. Kamran Michael, as Provincial Finance Minister. Some people in the party rank thought that such an important portfolio could not be allowed to be occupied by a non-Muslim.

PML-N decision to keep Mr. Michael did not change the status of millions of religious minorities facing discrimination in Punjab on daily basis, nevertheless this and other symbolic gestures took the country a step further towards non-discrimination. When Mr. Michael presented the budgets, a new tradition was set.

The Awami National Party could not control maltreatment of

minorities such as abduction and ransom of the members of Sikh and Hindu communities but they picked to address some of the hate material in the textbooks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. The Muthida Qaumi Movement spoke out every time a challenge surfaced, be that attacks on Christians, Hazara, Shiites, abuse of blasphemy laws or conversions Hindu girls or migration of the community from Pakistan.

In the same vein, the Federal government under Pakistan Peoples' Party together with the parties represented in the parliament created four seats and enhanced reserved seats for minorities in the National and Provincial Assemblies. It was a right not favor but something that was ignored until 2012. It was meant to address discrimination and exclusion through mainstreaming religious minorities, again an indirect approach of achieving social progress through stronger political representation.

The disadvantage with indirect approach is the slow change, reflected in incidence recorded in this chapter. That leaves citizens in the roughest of discrimination and atrocities on account of religious intolerance.

Enhanced vulnerabilities of the religious minorities

The Human Rights Monitor 10-15 years ago reported more incidence of social discrimination, people refusing to dine with members of minority communities, or restaurants and barbers' shops displaying signs for their preference with the religious background of their clients. Whereas the Human Right Monitor 2012-13 has recorded more existential threats; attack on minorities, target killings, hate speech, land grabbing and other occurrences of extreme intolerance. The perpetrators happen to be groups specializing in hate crimes, violent attacks but also the common individuals. That reflects a trend but may be the violent expression of religious intolerance have become so common that people do not care much about social discrimination as much these days. The media and civil society actors have simply too much to report, therefore only the most heinous and disturbing will find space and time.

Diwali after 10 years: Positive Development

The Hindu community celebrated Diwali (celebration of homecoming of god Ram after 14



160 years old temple was reopened after 60 years in Peshawar
Source: Express Tribune

years of exile) with fervor in a temple at the historical Gor Khutreein in Peshawar.

Phool Wati filed an application with the Peshawar High Court to reopen the temple for worship. Pervez Iqbal, attorney of Wati, said that in 1996 the temple was taken from the Hindu community. Returned in 2001 but to be re-occupied by zealots and they were not allowed to hold religious activities for about 10 years.

Dawn Oct. 31, 2011

To learn to grieve

Ghazi Salahuddin, wrote in The News on March 6, 2011 that he was shocked to watch on TV that the clerics in the National Assembly who did not grieve for the murder of Minister Shahbaz Bhatti: When members of the National Assembly rose from their seats to observe two minutes silence in memory of the slain minister, they just kept sitting. The attitude was nevertheless a replica of what happened after Governor Taseer's assassination in January 2011. Salman Taseer was also given this treatment for siding with a Christian victim of blasphemy. Both incidents show abundantly that social discrimination coupling with religious intolerance at the level of parliament, though not supported by majority of its members.

The Friday Times

Patterns in social discrimination and exclusion

Rain for all, relief for some

The floods wreaked havoc across Sindh but the most vulnerable, the scheduled castes including the Kolhis, Menghwars, Bheels and Oads have to pay an extra price.

A Hindu community chief, Mr. Mohin Kolhi, said that the organizations conducting relief efforts, (not just the religious ones), have been discriminating against minorities. He said whenever we visited the relief camp the prayer leader of the mosque told us that the ration was only for Muslims. He added that they were not even allowed to drink water from the camps. He further said indebted, ruined Sindh's scheduled castes as farmers. The Hindu farmers usually take loans from landlords and tend to the land with their families all year round to pay back. An agricultural expert, Mr. Kirtar Lal Menghwar said they (Hindu Minority) have been ignored every time disaster strikes, cyclones, floods or heavy rains.

The Express Tribune September 14, 2011

Durga Mata temple: Tharparkar (Sindh)

Mr. Abdullah Qureshi, a contractor desecrated the old Hindu temple

of Durga Mata to dig precious granite stones from the base of the temple. The temple was on a hilltop of Village Choryo Taluka Nagarparkar, District Tharparkar.



Destruction work on Durga Mata Temple.
Courtesy: Express Tribune

Sindh Government issued lease to Qureshi who brought heavy machinery for exploration and digging. On Shiva Ratari where several pilgrims came to worship, were shocked to see the destruction of their historical worship place. They protested and demanded immediately action against such practices.

Pakistan Today March, 19, 2011

Christians protest against desecration

A number of Christian community members held a protest demonstration on December 15, 2011 against the printing of a sign of Cross on shoes sold in the city markets. The protest was organized by Pakistan Minorities Movement, outside the Lahore Press Club.

Daily Times December 16, 2011

Reconstruction of attacked Churches ignored: Sangla Hill and Sukkur

In 2005, a mob enraged by allegations of blasphemy against a Christian had torched three churches, a school, a convent and numerous Christian homes. Many of those buildings remain in poor condition. The governments promised to rebuild the Churches but left the work unfinished.

Sister Andrea Sardar, principal of St Anthony's Girls' High School, said the repairs to the school were vital for the sake of the students. She also said "The windows are still without glass and students find it difficult to study in cold weather. Our school and hostel were renovated but cheap materials were used. Cracks are now appearing in the newly cemented floor. Even the doors, which were fixed instead of replaced, are giving way."

Pastor Tajamul Pervaiz, a head of the Presbyterian Church in Sangla Hill, was living in a rented house since his home was burned to the ground by the mob. He said electrical repairs have still not been completed and the building lacks ceiling fans. No compensation was paid for the furniture in my house. We demand that the government finishes what it started.

Similarly, the main and historical Church in Sukkur was burnt in 2006 after frivolous allegation of religious insult. The government which failed to protect the place of worship contributed nothing towards the reconstruction cost, despite a promise. The two Churches in Sukkur were built with historical Burmese teak.

NCJP / UCAN

Pattern in religious intolerance

Incidence of religious intolerance paced rapidly in 2011 starting with the brutal killings of the Government officials in the favor of minority communities i.e. Governor Punjab Salmaan Taseer and Minorities Minister Shahbaz Bhatti. Forced conversions of Hindu girls, abductions, gang rapes and killing of the Ahmadi community members, discriminations at workplaces/schools, grabbing graveyard lands/ desecrations of graves, attacks on Church and minority settlements made religious minorities feel more insecure in the period under report.

Sikhs out of their own temple: Lahore

The Sikh community was stopped from observing a religious celebration at Gurdwara (Sikh place of worship) in Lahore. Their musical instruments were thrown out and their entry barred after a Muslim religious group persuaded the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) that celebrating Muslim festival of Shab-e-Barat (the night of freedom) was more important than the Sikh religious festival. Police was deployed outside the temple to prevent the Sikhs from conducting their religious ceremonies until the end of Shab-e-Barat, on July 18, 2011.

Express Tribune July 17, 2011

Educational System Fuels Religious Discrimination: US report

Leonard Leo, chairman of the US government Commission on International Religious Freedom releasing its report on November 9, 2011 said that teaching discrimination increases the likelihood that violent religious extremism in Pakistan will continue to grow.

The study reviewed more than 100 textbooks from grades 1-10 across all four provinces. Researchers, in February 2011, visited 37 public schools where they interviewed 277 students and teachers, and 19 Madrassas where they interviewed 226 students and teachers. The report found systematic negative portrayals of minorities, especially Hindus and to a lesser extent, Christians.

The report said "religious minorities are often portrayed as inferior or second-class citizens who have been granted limited rights and

privileges by generous Pakistani Muslims, for which they should be grateful. Hindus are repeatedly described as extremists and eternal enemies of Islam whose culture and society is based on injustice and cruelty, while Islam delivers a message of peace and brotherhood, concepts portrayed as alien to the Hindu."

According to the study, teachers' attitudes and views were frequently nuanced and sometimes contradictory. While many advocated respectful treatment of religious minorities, this was conditional upon the attitudes of the minorities, "which appeared to be in question. The desire to proselytize was cited as one of the main motivations for kind treatment.

The report declared that more than half the public school teachers acknowledged the citizenship of religious minorities, but a majority expressed the opinion that religious minorities must not be allowed to hold positions of power, in order to protect Pakistan and Muslims. While many expressed the importance of respecting the practices of religious minorities, simultaneously 80% of teachers viewed non-Muslims, in some form or another, as "enemies of Islam".

The Express Tribune

Expulsion of Hakeem: Haripur

Mr. Arif, an Ahmadi Hakeem (physician of herbal medicine), was expelled from district Haripur. The local Muslim clerics accused him of painting Quranic verses on clinic with a picture of one of Mirza Ghulam Ahmed's companions. Police denied expulsion, claimed to have closed the clinic to avoid unrest.

The Express Tribune

Discrimination at work place

1. Imran Masih: Gujranwala

Mr. Imran Masih (24), a Christian of village Nut Kallan District Gujranwala was tortured and killed by his employer, a wealthy landlord.

Mr. Masih was employed for two years as a driver for Mr. Muhammad Masood. On February 5, 2011 he did not go to work due to illness. The next day, on his returning from work, he was reportedly beaten and tortured to death. Later, Masood and his two accomplices handed over the body of Imran to his father Lal Masih and claimed he had committed suicide. The police tried to dissuade his father from filing a case against landlord Masood. On the intervention and demonstration by the activists of All Pakistan Minorities Alliance the police registered a case against the culprits.

Agenzia fides

2. Law students find reciting Kalima problematic

Students wrote a letter to the director of the Colleges demanding the removal of the Principal of Quaid-e-Azam Law College, Lahore, Mr. Nafeer A. Malik, an Ahmadi, from his job accusing him of reciting the Kalima (proclamation of Islamic belief) in April, 2011.

The students alleged that during the lecture the Principal recited the Kalima which injured their religious feelings, therefore if he was not dismissed, they will make the matter public and take legal action under 298-C, PPC in cooperation with religious and political parties and bar councils.

Ahmadi community

3. Educator faced wrath: Toba Tek Singh

Mr. Zafar Iqbal, an Ahmadi District Teacher Educator (DTE) at village 736/GB wrote an application to his departmental superior regarding amendment to question papers and prevention of incitement to violence.

Iqbal said some of his subordinates started creating tension through religious propaganda on account of examination papers that he finalized for Islamiyat, Social Science and Urdu because he did not use epithets like Hazrat, and Raziallah Ta'la Anho for the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and his companions (R.A.).

Ahmadi community

6. Judge's ordeal

Mr. Nadeem Gulzar, an Ahmadi Additional Sessions Judge was transferred to Bahawalpur in July 2011. Thereafter he started receiving life threats from Tarkio-e-Taliban. A letter containing such a threat was also received by the Chief Justice Lahore High Court. His phone calls were being traced and recorded. Consequently he had to be shifted in high security and posted elsewhere.

Ahmadi community

7. Muhammad Ahmad: Kotli (AJK)

Prof. Muhammad Ahmad, an Ahmadi teacher at the Post-graduate College in Kotli, Azad Jammu and Kashmir noticed inscription on the classroom board, rostrum and found a few pieces of papers with inscription like "Qaudiani Infidels (Kafir)", etc. He ignored these messages, held the class and left the classroom. His son, Mr. Tasawar Ahmad, also student of the same class was harassed by his class-mates and called an infidel. Later they beat and injured him in the classroom on October 3, 2011.

Ahmadi community

8. Ayub Masih: Lahore

Mr. Ayub Masih, a Christian employee of Lahore Waste Management Company died on duty. During the duty, Masih became unconscious as he was not given permission by the authorities to have his meal.

City 42 News November 9, 2011

Implicated in Crime

George Masih: Vehari

Mr. George Masih was booked in a murder case by a Muslim Ms. Samina on June 18, 2011 at Chak # 21/10 R, district Vehari. Samina allegedly killed his mother-in-law Fatah Bibi for some personal grudge and implicated her neighbour George in the case. Police arrested George without any evidence

NCJP

Veerji Kolhi: Hyderabad

A Civil society along with Hindu communities of Kolhi, Bheel, Meghwar and others took out rally before press club Hyderabad against registration of false murder case on a Hindu social worker Mr. Veerji Kolhi at Nagarparkar



Courtesy: Google images

police station on behest of an influential landlord. They demanded judicial inquiry of this case and demanded to punish police officers who lodged case on behest of landlords. **Pak. Hindu Post May 26,11**

Mr. Arshad's family - Lahore

Mr. Arshad Masih and his family (Saira Bibi, wife, Mr. Zeeshan and Mr. Asif, sons) were alleged for killing Mr. Nusarullah, a Muslim in Lahore on December 24, 2010. The Christian family was arrested under murder allegations.

According to the fact-finding report Nusarullah's death was from a natural cause; however the family was implicated into this case due to their faith.

Saira Bibi, Zeeshan and Asif were released on bail few months later after their arrest; however Mr. Arshad was released on bail in October 2012.

Arshad and his family left their house and belongings and are currently at an unknown location. Their case is still pending before the court.

NCJP

A Christian family Toba Tek Singh

Ms. Nusarat, Ms. Najia and Ms. Bushra, Christian women of district Toba Tek Singh were alleged for kidnapping Ms. Nabila daughter of Abdul Shakur and Ms. Fozia daughter of Aslam, two Muslim girls whereas their (accused women) husbands were charged for raping the girls on February 24, 2012.

The three Christian women were released on bail on October 11, 2012; however their husbands were in jail till the filing of this report. **NCJP**

Mr. Shan Rehman, Haroon, Rashid and family Lahore 2008-2011

Mr. Shan alias Shan Rehman son of Late Salah-ul-Din, a Christian youth was alleged for kidnapping and raping Ms. Nazia daughter of Muhammad Hanif at Lahore. The FIR was lodged against Shan and brothers; however they were released on bail after a year of his arrest.

Earlier the relatives of Nazia attacked Shan's house with arms and tortured his mother, sister and other family members. They abused the women of the family and threatened them with dire consequences. The Christian victim family criticized the partial role of the police for not taking legal action against the attackers.

Later Nazia was reportedly murdered by her family members; however the police alleged Shan's two brothers for this murder and arrested them.

They were released by the court on bail; however their case is still pending before the court. Shan's family members were shifted to an unknown location due to threats. **NCJP**

Mr. Alladita and Asghar Masih Lahore 2010-2012

Mr. Alladita and Asghar s/o Akbar Masih were falsely alleged for **robbery charges on September.9, 2010**

After few months of their arrest they were released on bail however they were reportedly sent to jail again alleging in some other cases. The cases are pending before the court. **NCJP**

Khurram Yousaf-Faisalabad 2010-2013

In 2010, Khurram Yousaf s/o Yousaf Masih resident of Faisalabad employed as a security guard in a factory in Lahore was falsely alleged by factory owner with murder allegations of factory's employee. He was awarded life imprisonment by the court.

Update:

The bail petition for Khurram Yousaf was is filed by NCJP at the LHC in June 2013 and next hearing is awaited.

Target killing / Murder Attack

1. Two Christians shot dead and two injured: Hyderabad

After a brawl over interrupting a church gathering, two Christians were shot dead and two others were injured by local Muslims at Hurr Camp, a locality of the Christians in Hyderabad, Sindh Province on **March 21, 2011.**

According to the reports, Christians were celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Salvation Army Church when few Muslims' youth interrupted by playing music on their cell phones in high volume, they also teased the Christian women when they came to the Church.

Few Christian men tried to stop them and requested to respect the sanctity of the prayer service and refrain from teasing the Christian women.

According to witnesses, around six Muslims opened the fire and killed Mr. Jamil Sardar (24) a newly married and Mr. Younis Masih (45) on the spot. Siddique Masih (40) and Waseem George (20) got serious injuries and were admitted to the hospitals in Karachi and Hyderabad respectively.

]Hundreds of Christians staged a protest against the incident in front of the Central Jail, Hyderabad on March 22, 2011. They blocked the highway for the whole night along with the dead bodies and demanded arrest of the culprits and justice to the families. Two Catholic priests Fr. Samson Shukardin OFM, Diocesan Director, National Commission for Justice and Peace and Fr. Sabir Sadiq, the parish priest led the protest.

The Superintendent Police, the Station House Officer and the local political leadership of MQM visited the Christian community for condolences at the protest spot and requested them to vacate the highway. The protestors dispersed peacefully on assurance by police that the culprits will be arrested and brought to justice. Three out of six culprits mentioned in the FIR were arrested till this report, and the police officials reportedly have assured the community that other three will also be arrested soon. **NCJP**

2. Arnold Archie Dass: Karachi

On August 6, 2011, Arnold Archie Dass (38) was gunned down on Drigh Road, an old Christian neighborhood in Karachi. He was getting into his car to go home from work. Local sources say a group of gunmen opened fire in front of dozens of witnesses. Arnold Dass was mortally wounded in the chest, dying as he was rushed to a hospital. The assailants left the scene undisturbed after seeing that their target would not survive.

Arnold Dass was leader of the local Catholic community. Police filed case against unknown persons however, the victim's relatives complained that the police reluctant to trace the killers despite dozens of witnesses who could help. **Weekly Agahi News**

3. Naseem Ahmed Butt: Faisalabad

Mr. Naseem Ahmed Butt (55), an Ahmadi father of five was shot dead in Muzaffar colony on September 4, 2011. Butt was sleeping in his home when four unknown assailants jumped over the wall of his home and fired at him. He was shot in his stomach and chest. The assailants immediately fled the scene. He was critically injured and taken to the hospital where he passed away. **The Express Tribune**

4. Malik Mabroor Ahmed: Nawab Shah (Sindh)

Mr. Malik Mabroor Ahmed (50), an Ahmadi lawyer was shot near his office by an unidentified gunman on July 11, 2011 in Nawab Shah. Upon hearing the gunfire, his brother rushed to the scene, however by the time he had arrived Ahmed had already passed away.

Ahmadi community report

5. Attempt on life of Mr. Caval Ram Kolhi: Umer Kot (Sindh)

A demonstration and sit-in protest was held by the Kolhi community, party workers in Samaro city against the murder attack on a Hindu Mr. Caval Ram Kolhi the former president of Sindh Taraqi Pasand Party (Sindh Progressive Party) by a Muslim Mr. Shahid alias Babu Qaim Khani.

Later, the protesters ended up the protest through the dialogue with local leader of Pakistan People Party (PPP), Mr. Saeed Zulfiqar Ali Shahid Bukhari who ensured the arrest and charge against the accused according to the law. Samaro police registered an FIR on the petition of affected Mr. Kolhi. **Jehd-e-Haq October, 2011**

7. Ravi Kumar: Quetta

Mr. Ravi Kumar (24) a Hindu businessman and father of three,

abducted for ransom on October 22, 2011, was found dead near the Western bypass near Quetta, the police said on December 13, 2011. Ravi Kumar was abducted at gunpoint by four armed men, from his godown. Three days later, the kidnappers contacted the family and demanded Rs. 20 million.

"We asked them to keep their demand within affordable limits, so that we could pay," said Kumar's Uncle Dr Mehar Chand, who serves as the general secretary of the Pakistan Peoples Party's minority wing. After negotiations, the kidnappers agreed to halve the ransom. On December 12, 2011 evening, the family told the kidnappers they were ready to pay up but in the December 13, 2011 morning, the police informed them that three bodies needed to be identified at Civil Hospital, one of them was Kumar's.

Dr Mehar Chand quoted the doctors as saying that his head and chest were crushed with some heavy object. Police said that Kumar's family was unwilling to accept their help and wanted to resolve the issue on their own, using personal contacts. Ultimately, police officials said, Kumar was executed by his captors when the ransom was not paid. **The**

Express Tribune
December 14, 2011

8. Four Hindus gunned down: Shikarpur (Sindh)

Unidentified men gunned down four Hindus including a doctor in Chak town, near Shikarpur, on November 7, 2011, the Eid-ul-Adha day. "Two men riding a motorcycle sprayed a clinic with bullets,



Dead bodies of Hindu doctors at Local Hospital
Courtesy: Express Tribune

...killing the four Hindu men, Ramesh Kumar, chief of the Pakistan Hindu Council, said. The dead men identified as Ajeet Kumar, Naresh Kumar, Ashok Kumar and Satyapal. Naresh Kumar and Ashok died instantly while Dr Ajeet Kumar and Dr Satyapal were taken to Hospital, where they died of injuries.

Ramesh Kumar, the Hindu Council chief, told AFP that a dispute had been brewing for the past three weeks between the Hindu community and the Baban Khan Bhayo tribe after Hindu boys had a friendship with a Muslim girl. The issue was referred to a jirga, which decided to arbitrate over the case after Eid holidays, but before that

could happen the matter took a gruesome turn, he added. **AFP**

9. Rana Zafrullah: Sanghar (Sindh)

Rana Zafarullah (39, an Ahmadi was murdered by two unknown assassins when he was going home after having said his Friday prayers on March 18, 2011. He was shot at by two men. He was taken to Hospital, but succumbed to the injuries. Ahmadi community

10. Dilawar Hussain: Sheikhpura

Mr. Dilawar Hussain (42), an Ahmadi school teacher, was shot dead while he was teaching his students at the primary school in Dere Golianwala district Sheikhpura on October 1, 2011. Hussain was recently converted to the Ahmadi faith along with his wife and four children, from Muslim religion. **Ahmadi community report**

11. Jamil Sawan: Karachi

Mr. Jamil Sawan (50), a Christian running small business was allegedly murdered by unknown assailants on November 16, 2011 at his shop in Karachi. His family registered a murder case, against unknown persons.

Police said that Sawan the resident of Issa Nagri was shot dead outside his cosmetic shop. The assailant shot him in the neck and head and fled on a motorbike with his two accomplices.

Agahi News November 27, 2011

12 Attacks and killing in Essanagari: Karachi

Located on the University Road, Essanagri (literal meaning; the settlement of Christ or Christians) in Karachi city, houses around 50,000 inhabitants, the settlement of Essanagari started in the 1960s by the Christian menial laborers arriving from Punjab in search of lively hood. According to Ex-MPA Michael Javed, a lease had been secured by the Essanagri Housing Society. This populace of somewhat slum area faces many problems like; low literacy, poverty and drug usage. However the most acute issue these days is violence and crime, widely believed to motivate by land grabbing and fueled by criminals operating on the ethnic lines.

With the phenomenon of encroachments by land mafia did not affect Essanagri until recently but ethnic politics coming into play along with criminal element joining the business, resulted in several attacks on Essanagri and loss of life as Christians in the locality try to resist the move. Elements having political backing and parties i.e. MQM, ANP, PPP loyalists have shown no interest in preventing the

onslaught that has continued for some months now.

Pathan groups living next to Essanagri, and owning general stores, display arms, threaten and beat Christians, even harass women sometimes. Five persons have been killed by unknown criminal in August September this year.

1. Faisal Masih - 29th August 2012
2. Yousaf Masih - 12th September 2012
3. Rafi Masih - 15th September 2012
4. Nasir Masih - 15th September 2012
5. Maana Masih - 22nd September 2012

NCJP

13. Zafaruddin: Sanghar (Sindh)

Mr. Zafaruddin, an Ahmadi, was shot and injured. He died on his way to hospital. The case not yet registered by the police.

Daily Awami Awaz March 19, 2011

Update: Rasheed Masih murder case

On July 7, 2011, the Sessions Court in Mian Channu convicted the three men of torturing and killing Mr. Rasheed Masih, a Christian trader, and sentenced them to life sentences of 25 years.

Three Muslims were sentenced to life in prison for murdering Masih who reportedly refused to convert to Islam. He was brutally killed on March 9, 2010. They were also each ordered to pay 100,000 rupees.

Compass Direct News

14. Christian family murdered

Four people were slaughtered in the Christian colony of Muhala Ahmad, in the city of Okara, in the south of Lahore, capital of Punjab. The victims are Shugufta Baber, Catholic, a teacher at the "Convent High School", Catholic school in Okara; her two sons, Zanib aged 12 and Zarish 15; her sister Samina Bibi, a nurse.

The massacre took place during the night between 22 and 23 May, but only now the news has been released. The authors of the crime are unclear: according to preliminary reports, the responsible seems to be Dr. Baber Masih, a Christian Protestant and homeopathic physician, Shugufta's husband, who could have committed the crime in the throes of a depressive state.

The man found injured, was rushed to hospital, first in Okara and then in Lahore, where he died. At first he accused himself, then he spoke of "a group of unknown men who carried out the massacre."

According to the local police, in charge of investigating the crime, so far the most accepted theory is that of a crazy act carried out by Baber, who then attempted to commit suicide.

Some Christians in Okara say, however, that this could be "an attempt of throwing of tack" and say they are ready to resort to the federal police to ask for justice to shed full light on the massacre. According to Fides sources in the city of Okara the relations between Christians and Muslims are good, but there are radical Islamic groups that have caused accidents in the past. The local community also remembers the demolition of a Christian cemetery in 2009, transformed by the civil authorities in a park. **www.news.va**

15. Faisal Masih Murder case: Karachi

On August 29, Faisal Masih had become the first resident of Karachi's Essa Nagri, a majority of whose residents are Christians, to be killed by extortionists. Faisal, who used to offer cell phone credit transfer facilities to consumers, was shot dead outside his shop when he refused to pay the extortionists who had made his life a living hell.

Criminals had repeatedly called upon him in the past as well. But shopkeepers in the area, many of whom were present at the memorial service, had been receiving threats from the bhatta mafia (extortion groups) for quite some time.

Sadiq Masih, a resident of the area, was handed an extortion slip two months ago and was directed to pay Rs.500,000. He received a threatening phone call soon afterwards.

"The extortionists told me that I was making a lot of money from the mobile phone tower at the top of my roof." Sadiq temporarily moved out of the area, but was unable to shake away the criminals. He ended up paying half of the money that was initially demanded by the unknown men.

John, who owns a small grocery store in the area, said that he had paid Rs.10,000 to extortionists three months ago. "Seeing what they did to Faisal, I am glad that I gave them the money."

Criminals have managed to put in place a very sophisticated system for collecting money from innocent, peace-loving residents, completely undermining the security apparatus in the city. Three political parties have divided streets among themselves, from which they extort money, claims a Christian leader of the area,

Michael Javed. Criminals have also moved into Essa Nagri after the Lyari operation. "One party collects money from three streets, while another collects it from other four streets," he said.

While the bhatta mafia has proven itself to be the bane of existence for countless businesses all over the metropolis, Christian shopkeepers in Essa Nagri believe that they are being targeted so that they would ultimately leave the area. "Political parties want to turn Essa Nagri into their own constituency," exclaimed Samuel Bashir, Faisal's uncle. "Robberies have become rampant in the area and bandits fire into the area. We feel helpless." He added that three families have already moved from the area.

Express Tribune, 03, September, 2012.

Organized Attacks/Mob Violence

1. Muslims attacked a Christian village

Hundreds of Muslims attacked the Christian settlement of Khokerki district Gujranwala on April 30, 2011, that forced the habitants to flee.

The attack took place following blasphemy accusations against Christian teacher Mr. Mushtaq Gill and his son (a banker). Ten people including police officials were wounded as demonstrators attacked the houses. Gujranwala which has a large Christian population and several settlements remained tense while people haunted by past incidents of attacks in Gojra, Korian Sialkot, etc. in 2009-2010 shifted from their home.

A school owned by a Christian was also attacked by students of a Madrassa causing huge loss. Police arrested 25 people for the disturbance. Police patrolled the area; however large numbers of Christians were temporarily displaced for a month. **NCJP**

2. Christians beaten: Abbotabad

A group of Christians in Full Gospel Assembly Church were attacked and beaten by a mob on August 12, 2011. They were watching the film 'Jesus' when the extremists attacked the people and smashed the projector. The police intervened but did not arrest anyone. **UCANEWS**

3. Disrupting Church Service: Lahore

Mr. Muhammad Shoaib alias Mota, the nephew of former MPA PML-Q, forcibly entered the church accompanied by armed Mr. Iqbal Kumhar, Mr. Ashiq Machhi and another man at Lakhoki village in the

suburbs of Lahore. They disrupted the Sunday service and allegedly desecrated a copy of the Bible and Cross besides manhandling the people attending the church service.

The local Christians accused the police of refusing the registration of an FIR. Superintendent of Police Mr. Malik Awais said that he avoided a communal clash and tried to settle the matter amicably.

Express Tribune May 30, 2011

4. Desecration by force of law: Faisalabad

On February 15, 2011 the police came to the village Masudabad Chak #109, District Faisalabad after sunset and took away the Kalima plate from the mosque. Again on March 4, 2011 a contingent of nine policemen went to the same village and raided the local Ahmadi graveyard. They removed the Ahmadi youth from his security duty, and sprayed black paint on Quranic verses written on tombstones.

Ahmadi community

Attack on places of worship

1. St. Joseph's Church: Karachi

On August 27, 2011, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Nazareth Nagar Karachi was attacked by some unknown assailants who threw stones and vandalized wooden ventilators, window panes. Marble stones, pieces of wood and glasses were shattered on the church floor. A complaint was filed with police against the unknown perpetrators. A handful of police officers were stationed at the church to maintain security during Mass.

The Christian Voice September 4, 2011

2. St. Thomas Church: Wah Cantonment

St. Thomas Catholic Church in Wah Cantonment was attacked by extremists on March 28, 2011. Six armed men broke into the Church's courtyard. They pelted stones at the windows, destroyed the light towers and tried to enter the Church door. The attackers failed to open the door, however tried to set it on fire.

NCJP

3. Attack on a prayer centre: Pichnand

An Ahmadi prayer centre was attacked by some unidentified armed persons at 3:45 am in Pichnand on June 16, 2011.

The clerics of Ahmadi community got up to arrange their prayer and observed the presence of some people in the street. Soon, two masked men climbed up to the outer wall and fired in the air.

Jehd-e-Haq July, 2011

4. Construction of place of worship obstructed: Jannatwala

The Tehsil Municipal Administration (TMA) razed an under-construction Ahmadi place of worship in Jannatwala village, Lodhran, on the orders of DCO Lodhran, Mr. Ghulam Fareed, after Muslim clerics staged protests and pressurized the district government to do so. Fareed told the construction was not authorized nor was the building's design approved by TMA.

Mr. Amir, a member of the Ahmadi community, said they were not even given time to approach the courts. TMA officials said they had failed to follow the legal procedure which prompted the action.

Express Tribune September 4, 2011

Target killing of minorities in 2011

Year 2011					
Sr. #	Victim	Religion	Sex	Place	Date
1	Ramesh Kumar	Hindu	M	Quetta, Balochistan	06/02/11
2	Shahbaz Bhatti (Minority Minister)	Christian	M	Faisalabad, Punjab	02/03/11
3	Rana Zafarullah	Ahmadi	M	Sanghar, Sindh	18/03/11
4	Zafaruddin	Ahmadi	M	Sanghar, Sindh	19/03/11
5	Jamil Sardar & Younis Masih	Christian	M	Hyderabad, Sindh	21/03/11
6	Younas Masih	Christian	M	Faisalabad, Punjab	23/03/11
7	Maheso Bheel	Hindu	M	Mithi, Sindh	April/11
8	Ajeet Kumar	Hindu	M	Jafferabad, Balochistan	May/11
9	Kanhaiya Lal	Hindu	M	Hassan Abdal, KPK	18/05/11
10	Abbas Masih	Christian	M	Lahore, Punjab	20/05/11
11	Deewan	Hindu	M	Mastung, Balochistan	13/06/11
12	Joseph Masih	Christian	M	Faisalabad, Punjab	08/07/11
13	Poran Das	Hindu	M	Jacobabad, Balochistan	11/07/11
14	Malik Mabroor Ahmed	Ahmadi	M	Nawab Shah	11/07/11
15	Vijay Masih	Christian	M	Lahore, Punjab	Aug./11
16	Arnold Archie Dass	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	06/08/11
17	Naseem Ahmed Butt	Ahmadi	M	Faisalabad, Punjab	04/09/11
18	Bashir Ahmed	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	07/09/11
19	Dilawar Hussain	Ahmadi	M	Sheikhupura, Sindh	01/10/11
20	Ravi Kumar	Hindu	M	Quetta, Balochistan	22/10/11
21	Three doctors/ One paramedic	Hindu	M	Shikarpur, Sindh	07/11/11
22	Jamil Sawan	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	16/11/11
Sub Total : 26					

Target killing of minorities in Year 2012

Sr.#	Victim	Religion	Sex	Place	Date
1	Ahsan Kamal	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	01/18/12
2	Dawood Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Sarai Norang , Bannu	23/01/12
3	Chaudhry Muhammad Akram	Ahmadi	M	Nawab Shah, Sindh	29/02/12
4	Maqsood Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Nawab Shah, Sindh	07/03/12
5	Abdul Qudoos	Ahmadi	M	Rabwah, Punjab	30/03/12
6	Hyrak Masih	Christian	M	Quetta, Balochistan	17/04/12
7	Chaudhry Irshad Younas	Christian	M	Lahore, Punjab	27/04/12
8	A Christian family (4)	Christian	2M/2F	Okara, Punjab	22/05/12
9	Asif alias Shera Masih	Christian	M	Hyderabad, Sindh	09/07/12
10	Naeem Ahmad Gondal	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	19/07/12
11	Muqadas Kainat	Christian	F	Sahiwal , Punjab	14/08/12
12	Waiz Masih	Christian	M	Islamabad, Punjab	19/08/12
13	Sunil Yaqoob Masih	Christian	M	Faisalabad, Punjab	22/08/12
14	Sajid Masih	Christian	M	Kasur, Punjab	22/08/12
15	Faisal Masih	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	29/08/12
16	Chanesar Odh	Hindu	M	Umerkot, Sindh	04/09/12
17	Rao Abdul Ghaffar	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	06/09/12
18	Muhammad Nawaz	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	11/09/12
19	Yousaf Masih	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	12/09/12
20	Naveed Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	14/09/12
21	Muhammad Ahmad Siddiqui	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	15/09/12
22	Rafi Masih	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	15/09/12
23	Nasir Masih	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	15/09/12
24	Manna Masih	Christian	M	Karachi, Sindh	22/09/12

25	Khawaja Zahur Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Sargodha, Punjab	04/10/12
26	Riaz Ahmad Bashra	Ahmadi	M	Sialkot, Punjab	18/10/12
27	Saad Farooq	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	19/10/12
28	Riaz Ahmed Basra	Ahmadi	M	Sialkot, Punjab	20/10/12
29	Raja Abdul Hamid Khan	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	23/10/12
30	Bashir Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Karachi, Sindh	23/10/12
31	Dhayan Chand Bhagri	Hindu	M	Hyderabad, Sindh	30/10/12
32	Manzoor Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Quetta	11/11/12
32	Maqsood Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Quetta	07/12/12
Sub Total: 36					

Summary: Target Killings 2011-2012

Victims by Religion:

Christian victims: 25
Hindu victims: 13
Ahmadi victims: 24

By Province

Punjab: 19
Sindh: 33
Balochistan: 08
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: 02
Total: 62

Hindu and Ahmadi victims of kidnapping for ransom, including attempts 2011-2012

Kidnapping For Ransom 2011					
Sr. #	Victim	Religion	Sex	Place	Date
1	Rajiv Sagar	Hindu	M	Quetta, Balochistan	10/01/11
2	Terro Mal	Hindu	M	Sukkar, Sindh	04/08/11
3	Sarwan Kumar Maheshwari	Hindu	M	Umerkot, Sindh	Jan./11
4	Mehtab/Mashooq Mangi	Hindu	2M	Larkana, Sindh	08/02/11
5	Gurji Lakhmir Chand	Hindu	M	Quetta, Balochistan	25/02/11
6	Mohan Lal Menghwar:	Hindu	M	Tharparkar, Sindh	23/12/11
7	Mushtaq Ahmad	Ahmadi	M	Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtun Khwa	17/10/11
8	Shah Muhammad/ Fahad Javed	Ahmadi	2M	Kotli, Azad Jammu Kashmir	29/10/11
9	Ashok Kumar	Hindu	M	Khuzdar, Balochistan	08/12/11
10	Gur Bakhsh Lal	Hindu	M	Dadhar, Balochistan	26/08/11
11	Prithvi Kumar	Hindu	M	Sukkur, Sindh	05/03/11
12	Bashir Ahmed	Ahmadi	M	Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtun Khwa	03/03/11
Sub Total : 14					

Attempt To Kidnap 2011					
Sr. #	Victim	Religion	Sex	Place	Date
01	Afaq Ahmad Malik	Ahmadi	M	Gujrat, Punjab	10/02/11
02	Naseem Ahmad/ wife	Ahmadi	M/F	Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtun Khwa	27/09/11
Sub Total : 03					

Kidnapping for ransom 2012					
Sr. #	Victim	Religion	Sex	Place	Date
1	Dr Rajesh Kumar	Hindu	M	Quetta, Balochistan	13/02/12
2	Mirwah Ladiko Mal/ Zaheer Rind	Hindu	2M	Khairpur, Sindh	10/03/12
3	Vinod Kumar / Sono Kumar	Hindu	2M	Quetta, Balochistan	March/12
4	Ganga Ram Sharma	Hindu	M	Khuzdar, Balochistan	April/12
5	Ramesh Lal/ Ashok Kumar/ Hari Lal	Hindu	3M	Jacobabad, Sindh	July/12
6	Ashok Kumar/ Hari Das/ Ramesh Lal,	Hindu	3M	Sukkur, Sindh	10/07/12
7	Sevoma/ Ajay Kumar/	Hindu	2M	Tando Allah Yar, Sindh	2012
8	Dr Bhero Lal Lihano	Hindu	M	Tando Allah Yar, Sindh	2012
Sub Total : 15					

Summary: Kidnapping for ransom/Attempt 2011-2012

Victims by Religion:

Hindu: 25
Ahmadi: 07

By Province

Punjab: 01
Sindh: 17
Balochistan: 08
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: 04
Azad Jammu Kashmir (Pakistan): 02
Total 32

- Note: this list does not include all case because of limited reporting.

Target killings attributed to religious intolerance

1. Joseph Masih: Faisalabad

Mr. Joseph Masih (20), was gunned down by Mr. Asif Jutt, a Muslim and his accomplices in Chak 118/R.B., Jhumra District Faisalabad on July 8, 2011. They killed Joseph because they had some grudge with his uncle Shakeel Masih. Joseph was rushed to the hospital but died on the way. The police registered FIR under murder charges against Jutt and unknown persons on the complaint of deceased's father however the culprits were at large till report. **NCJP**

2. Younas Masih: Faisalabad

Mr. Younas Masih, a Christian, was shot dead by two armed Muslims Mr. Ghulfam and Mr. Iqbal at village 153/RB Bhroki, Jhumra district Faisalabad on March 23, 2011 on a trivial issue at his shop. The accused bought packs of cigarettes from the Masih's shop. On asking payment, they abused Masih and refused to pay.

Finally they opened fire at him and fled away. On hearing the shots, his relatives ran to the shop to save him. However, he died on the spot. The police arrived one hour late and registered a case U/S 302/34 of PPC and arrested one of the killers; the other was at large.

NCJP

3. Ajeet Kumar: Jafferabad (Baluchistan)

Mr. Ajeet Kumar, a Hindu owner of the Sapna Rice Mill, was murdered on May, 2011 while he was on the way to his home on a motorcycle along with his friend Mr. Abdul Waheed near the bypass of Osata Muhammad in Jafferabad. Three masked armed men stopped them to rob, while on resistance, the assailants sprayed the bullets. Ajeet Kumar died on the spot while Waheed was rushed to hospital in wounded condition. **Jehd-e-Haq June, 2011**

4. Maheso Bheel: Mithi (Sindh)

Mr. Maheso Bheel (60), a Hindu of Dharar village, was shot dead reportedly when Assistant Sub-Inspector Mr. Saleem tried to kill the dog. The dog escaped but Bheel was killed. No case was registered against the police official. **Dawn April 5, 2011**

5. Ramesh Kumar: Quetta

Mr. Ramesh Kumar, a Hindu trader of Multani Muhalla, Quetta was kidnapped and killed by armed men on February 6, 2011. According to police, Kumar was going to his shop when unidentified armed men intercepted him on Patel Road, held him up at gunpoint and killed him when he tried to escape. **Pakistan Today Feb. 7, 2011**

6. Kanhaiya Lal: Hassan Abdal (KPK)

Mr. Kanhaiya Lal (70), a Hindu shopkeeper, was shot dead on May 18, 2011 evening while he was returning home from his shop.

Pakistan Hindu Post May 19, 2011

7. Poran Das: Jacobabad (Sindh)

Dr. Poran Das, a Hindu, was shot dead by unknown armed men near Jacobabad on July 11, 2011

The News July 12, 2011

8. Deewan: Mastung (Baluchistan)

Mr. Deewan, a Hindu trader, was shot dead in the main bazaar of Mastung by unidentified armed men on 13 June, 2011.

Pakistan Today June 14, 2011

9. Vijay Masih: Lahore

Mr. Vijay Masih, a Christian of Sialkot, working as a security guard in Lahore, was murder by some unknown culprits.

Agahi News August 28, 2011

10. Abbas Masih: Lahore

Mr. Abbas Masih (36), a Christian sanitary worker and father of four, was stabbed to death by a Muslim shopkeeper in Lahore the May 20, 2011. A flower-shop worker ordered him to pick up dried leaves and flowers outside the store; Abbas said that he would do so later on. This angered the shopkeeper who stabbed Masih in the chest with a knife. Abbas was taken to hospital where he died.

Daily Times

Violence and attempt to murder

1. Wajih Ahmad Noman: Mardan (KP)

Mr. Wajih Ahmad Noman, an Ahmadi of Mardan, was injured in shoulder by a bullet when he was returning home in company of his three relatives on January 6, 2011. The assailants fled after firing the shots on motorbike. Noman rushed to the hospital where he became stable.

Ahmadi community

2. Imtiaz Ahmad: Gujranwala

Mr Imtiaz Ahmad, an Ahmadi, was shot twice on July 16, 2011 after the evening prayer. Ahmad was hit on his right thigh. He was rushed to the hospital where he recovered. A report was filed for registration of a police case.

Ahmadi community

3. Saleem Ahmad: Karachi

Five shots were fired at Mr. Saleem Ahmad, an Ahmadi, as he was

returning home after prayers on November 13, 2011 at Manzoor Colony. One shot hit him and he was taken to the hospital.

Ahmadi community

4. Mukhi Odhamal attacked: Karachi

Mr. Mukhi Odhamal, a Hindu, the general secretary of the Pakistan Peoples Party's (PPP) Minorities Wing, was attacked by armed men at his house in Ibrahim Hyderi on 28 July, 2011. His son Mr. Jagdesh Prakash (13) and his brother Mr. Jai Prakash were injured and taken to hospital in a critical condition.

The Express Tribune

Kidnapping for Ransom

1. Rajiv Sagar: Quetta

Mr. Rajiv Sagar, a Hindu, was kidnapped by unidentified men near the Main Bazaar of Naushki on January 10, 2011. Sagar was in a warehouse in the Naushki Bazaar when a group of armed men barged in and took him away at gunpoint. Police termed it a case of kidnapping for ransom.

Daily Times January 11, 2011

2. Five Hindus: Quetta

Maharaj Lakshmi Chand Garji (82), Hindu religious leader and his four companions kidnapped on December 21, 2010 were released near Surab District Kalat. The abductors released three people within hours while continued the detention of Maharaj and Vinod Kumar, son of a well-known trader based in Quetta. According to Daily Times, the recovery took place without paying any ransom to the kidnappers. They were locked in a small dark room and blindfolded for 95 days. Akbar Hussain Durrani, Home Secretary, said that the kidnappers had been identified and efforts were underway to book them.

Pakistan Hindu Post

3. Terro Mal: Sukkur (Sindh)

Mr. Terro Mal (45), a Hindu trader was kidnapped by unidentified armed men, on August 4, 2011, at Sidhuja Chowk. Police arrived the scene an hour later. A shutter down strike was observed on the call of Hindu Panchayat (a council). On assurance to recover Mal by police, the Panchayat called off the strike.

Jehd-e-Haq September 2011

4. Sarwan Kumar Maheshwari: Umerkot (Sindh)

A Hindu trader Mr. Sarwan Kumar Maheshwari, while traveling to Samaro from Umerkot by bus was intercepted by a black car at Moto Malhi stop. Four armed men disembarked Mr. Maheshwari from the bus and took him away in the car.

Dawn January 31, 2011

5. Mehtab Lakhair and his driver: Larkana (Sindh)

The District Police Officer (DPO) said that Mr. Mehtab Lakhair, a Hindu and Mr. Mashooq Mangi were going to Khairpur Nathan Shah in a car after visiting a doctor in Larkana when unknown men intercepted and kidnapped them on February 8, 2011. He added that they later abandoned the car at a distance and escaped with the hostages. Police could not find any clue of the kidnapped persons.

Dawn February 9, 2011

6. Gurji Lakhmir Chand: Quetta

Gurji Lakhmir Chand, a Hindu top priest of Kali Mata temple in Kalat, was kidnapped, while returning home in Kalat on February 25, 2011. Mr. Chand and five other people of his community were kidnapped from Anjira where they were going to attend a wedding.

The kidnappers snatched Rs.150000 cash that he was carrying at the time of the incident, his mobile phone, gold ring and watch were also taken away by the armed men. He said the government had played no role in his release, adding that it was the result of efforts made by tribal elders.

Dawn February 26, 2011

7. Mohan Lal Menghwar: Tharparkar (Sindh)

Mr. Mohan Lal Menghwar, a Hindu advocate of village Bhadisindhu, Chachro, was on the way to Sindh High Court, Hyderabad bench on December 23, 2011. He proceeded in early morning but when he did not reach the court it created a panic among the lawyers, clients and family members. In the evening local police informed the family that a car was found abandoned at a taxi stand.

Police of three stations, Tando Adam, Tando Jam and Hyderabad were in motion yet waited for the abductors demand for ransom and two days after the disappearance the police did not register the case. The police officer said they would not file the case as there was an issue about which police station had the jurisdiction.

Later Mr. Ladha Ram Sharma, the senior lawyer of the victim, received a call from abductors for the ransom of Rs.10 Million for his release. Police was duly informed who again refused to file the case. It is alleged that the police knew that abductors who were operating freely in the areas of the Hindu population in the rural parts of the province through the seminaries.

AHRC

8. Mushtaq Ahmad: Peshawar

Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad (60), an Ahmadi, was kidnapped by unknown men on October 17, 2011 in Peshawar. He was traveling on motor

bike to drop his children at the school when men riding a car intercepted him and forced him into the car. **Ahmadi community**

9. Shah Muhammad: Kotli (AJK)

Dr. Shah Muhammad, an Ahmadi and his son Mr. Fahad Javed were kidnapped on October 29, 2011. They were returning home after having dinner at relatives' place at 11 p.m. The next day, the police told his family that his car was found near Jhelum, but Dr. Shah and his son could not be traced. **Ahmadi community**

10. Ashok Kumar: Khuzdar

Dr. Ashok Kumar, a Hindu trader, along with his driver was kidnapped along with his driver and two laborers at gun point in the Ferozabad on December 8, 2011. According to Balochistan Levies, Kumar was a resident of Hyderabad and was on his way to Naal from Khuzdar in his pickup truck when a group of armed men intercepted and abducted the trader. **Express Tribune December 8, 2011**

11. Gur Bakhsh Lal: Dadhar

Gur Bakhsh Lal, a Hindu, was kidnapped near the police checkpoint on August 26, 2011 at night when he was on his way home after closing his shop in the Ali Rind area, Dadhar. Police officials said that it was a kidnapping for ransom case.

Express Tribune August 28, 2011

12. Prithvi Kumar: Sukkur

Mr. Prithvi Kumar (5), a Hindu boy, was kidnapped when he went to a grocery shop to buy toffees in Jacobabad on March 5. The police arrested a suspect, Mr. Gulzar Jagirani who during interrogation confessed to being involved and informed the police about the area where he had been kept. A contingent of police cordoned the village of Mohabbat Laro, located on Sindh Balochistan border on March 29, 2011 and asked the kidnapers to surrender. However they fled, leaving Prithvi behind in a hut. **Dawn March 31, 2011**

13. Bashir Ahmed: Peshawar

Dr. Bashir Ahmad, an Ahmadi, was released by the kidnapers six months after the payment of two million rupees as ransom on March 3, 2011. It is learnt that kidnapers belong to a Jihadi organization of Orakzai. They mentioned to Mr. Ahmad that his faith was the primary cause of his ordeal. **Ahmadi community**

Kidnapping attempted:

1. Naseem Ahmad and wife: Peshawar

Dr. Naseem Ahmad and his wife (Ahmadis) were returning home

after closing their clinic on September 27, 2011 in Peshawar. A car blocked the road ahead of them. Two men came out of the car. One of them dragged Ahmad out of his car while the other aimed his pistol at his wife but she grabbed the pistol and shots missed. Hearing the noise some people gathered at the scene. The kidnappers fled the scene Ahmad received minor injuries. Ah m a d i community

2. Afaq Ahmad Malik: Gujrat

Mr. Afaq Ahmad Malik, an Ahmadi, was going to school in his car along with his driver when he was kidnapped on Feb. 10, 2011 at Khokhar Gharbi. The kidnappers went not very far when their car overturned. This provided an opportunity to the boy and his driver to flee. They ran away from the site and reached home safely.

Ahmadi community

Physical violence

1. Rebecca Bibi: Lahore

Ms. Rebecca Bibi (name held), a 12 year-old Christian girl, who worked as a maid, lost an eye due to the beatings on behalf of her Muslim employer. She came home with bruises and swollen wounds. Her family took her to hospital and filed a complaint.

Agenzia Fides, Dec. 2, 2011

2. Abdul Moeed: Bahawalpur

Mr. Abdul Moeed, an Ahmadi, a student of computer engineering in Bahawalpur University, was beaten up in the University on November 24, 2011. Chief of Anjuman Talabah Islam (ATI), a student organization contacted Moeed and asked him an appointment to talk. Moeed asked him about the agenda, the Chief replied that it was his proselytizing in the hostel but the meeting did not materialize. A few days later, on November 14, 2011, two students roughed up Moeed. His right shoulder was dislocated.

Ahmadi community

3. Qamar Ahmad: Bhakar

Mr. Qamar Ahmad, an Ahmadi head of the local Ahmadi Youth Organization, ran a private clinic at a village 70/M.L. He was beaten up by five armed men when he was on his way to home on December 30, 2011 and remarked that a Mirzai was in no position to harm them in return.

Ahmadi community

4. Masood Ahmad: Hyderabad

Mr. Masood Ahmad, an Ahmadi, was going to his work when he was intercepted by two motorcyclists on January 27, 2011. They

demanded his motor bike. He gave his bike however they still shot him in the leg before leaving. He was taken to the Bhitai Hospital for recovering.

Ahmadi community

5. Muhammad Yar Langah: Rabwah

Mr. Muhammad Yar Langah, an Ahmadi, was returning home with his herd of goats when he was seized by son of a cleric who used foul language against him and told him to stop going by that route. In the meantime the cleric, Mr. Muhammad Anwar arrived at the scene and attacked Langah with an axe, injuring him severely in the head. He was taken to the Hospital for first aid and medical report. Based on the report the police registered criminal a case against the accused, and investigated.

Ahmadi community

6. Malik Majeed Ahmad Khan: Sahiwal

Mr. Malik Majeed Ahmad Khan, an Ahmadi general secretary of the Ahmadi community at district Sahiwal was attacked by his neighbor, a former student of a Madrassa. His neighbor came to Khan's shop and used profanities against him. Mr. Majeed kept his calm. The next day, he came over again and physically attacked Khan who was injured. The police arrived at the scene and booked the attacker.

Ahmadi community

7. Waqas Ahmad: Bahawal

Mr. Waqas Ahmad, an Ahmadi, was overtaken by a few miscreants on June 6, 2011 at Chak Nr. 11/FW district Bahawal Nagar and was beaten up badly. The assault resulted in fracture of his arm.

Ahmadi community

8. Two Christian nurses: Lahore

In Fatima Memorial Hospital Lahore, two Christian nurses Nusrat Bibi and Muneeran Bibi, were assaulted and detained by force in a hospital room for 9 hours on May 20, 2011. They were accused of theft, however according to local sources, are clearly innocent and the charge was only to intimidate them, beat them and sexually harass them.

Agenzia Fides

Qasim Zia and Tariq Zia Lahore

Mr. Qasim Zia and Mr. Tariq Zia, two Christian brothers were attacked and tortured by local Muslims on August 14, 2012 in Lahore.

Qasim Zia received 4 bullets and was admitted to the hospital, and Tariq was badly injured.

According to the victim's family, the criminals were supported by

the police and local politicians.

The Christian community and the relatives staged a protest against the criminals and police on August 22, 2012 and demanded arrest of the attackers.

The video coverage of the protest was aired on Punjab TV; a private television channel in Lahore. The Christian family was reportedly pressurized for reconciliation and to withdraw the case against the attackers.

Mr. Qasim is still under medical treatment after spending two months in the hospital and still cannot walk properly. **Punjab TV**

Land Grabbing and Eviction

a) Land grabbing

1. Church property: Chaman

The property of a Church in the main bazaar, Christian Colony of Chaman was seized by some people who raised the area into business-shops. The Christian community appealed to the government to help recover the property which they got back t in 2012. **Jehd-e-Haq Feb. 2011**

2. Ahmadi's land occupied illegally: Gujranwala

Mr. Akhtar Islam, a Muslim, occupied the farm land of an Ahmadi, Mr. Muhammad Sharif of Khewewali dist. Gujranwala. The police got the land released from the occupiers. The assailants retaliated by firing and occupied the land again on May 20, 2011.

Ahmadi Community

3. Kohli village attacked: Nagar Parker (Sindh)

On May 20, 2011 a group of land grabbers attacked a village of Vishnoo Kolhi, Nagar Parker and opened fire at the villagers to vacate their houses, seriously injuring four persons; Mr. Eshwar, Mr. Mohan, Mr. Hari, and Mr. Kombho who received bullet wounds. After heavy firing the villagers came out to defend the women and children and captured a few men, snatched their guns which they later handed over to the police. One of the attackers, Mr. Salah Shoro, was injured, and succumbed to injuries.

Instead of filing the case, the police charged members of Hindu community of murder, living 500 km away from the crime scene. Mr. Veerji Kolhi, prominent human rights activist was among the persons who were booked on murder charges. He released many

minority families from the feudal lords of the district where a sizeable number from Kolhi community reside. **AHRC**

5. Two Christian women beaten: Kot Addu

Mrs. Martha Nazir (40) and daughter-in-law, Nasreen Bibi were beaten by a retired military official who also fired at a number of Christian who attempted to save the victims. Police in Kot Sarwar Shaheed, led by Inspector Mr. Muhammad Arif along with armed retired senior military officers, attacked the house of Mr. Nazir Masih at village Azizabad, Kot Addu. They took possession of their adjoining land and told the Christian family to vacate the land immediately. The Christian family refused to leave the land which they had been cultivated by them since 1976. On refusing, the grabbers attacked with clubs, batons and punched the helpless woman. They beat Nasreen badly inflicting serious wounds around her eye.

Minorities' concern of Pakistan

6. Attack on Christian in Chak 134 Mian Channu.

On October 5, 2011, a group of Muslim land grabbers attacked the Christian community over an issue of land which is a government property and could not be transferred to any private individual. As a standard practice, this piece of land is for use of craftsman and agriculture related laborers.

The land grabbers sent about twenty-three armed men to the said property and started torturing and harassing the family of Mr. Kashif Adeel, a Christian laborer settled on the land. When the villagers came around, the attackers opened fire.

Mr. Saqib Bashir, an eighteen years old Christian boy lost his life, while twenty Christians including men, women and children were injured by pellets and five sustained severe injuries on eyes, chest and neck.

Sixteen accused were arrested on the day of incident. Two accused for killing Mr. Saqib Bashir filed bail petitions which were rejected by the court. The other two accused, nominated in the FIR are still absconders. **NCJP**

7. Gosha-e-Aman: Lahore

'Gosha-e-Aman, situated at Allama Iqbal Road, Lahore run by a Board of Catholic Church and managed by CARITAS Pakistan was demolished by Punjab government on January 10, 2012, through police. The institution was registered in the name of Lahore Charitable Association and was established in 1887. This two acres

land had a large compound that previously housed; a home for elderly people, a girl's School, a Convent and a Chapel.

The DCO supervised the demolition with contingent of police. He ordered the families residing there to move out of the building and started demolition. The DCO and other police officials at the spot claimed that the property had been transferred to the Punjab government. Though he showed no document to support the claim, nor was any notice served to the legal property holders (Lahore Charitable Association). Several copies of Bible and religious artifact were also destroyed during the demolition.



Destruction of Gosh-e-Aman: Lahore
Courtesy: Google Images

The Christian community along with the civil society organizations took out a protest rally on the site. In a press conference at Lahore press club, Fr. Emmanuel Yousaf a Senior Catholic Priest strongly condemned this act of the Punjab government and demanded that the possession of the property should be returned to its legal holders immediately and the losses should be compensated.

The Punjab government though in principle agreed upon the entitlement of the Church, however did not move to return the occupied land or pay compensation during the whole year. **NCJP**

B) Graveyard grabbing

1. Graveyard desecrated: Chak Jhumra

The Muslim landowners destroyed and desecrated a Christian graveyard at Chak # 127/R.B, Behlolpur of Chak Jhumra, Faisalabad using a tractor to plough over a number of graves. Buried coffins were broken and the bones of the dead could be seen on the surface. The local police refused to open an inquiry, whilst the landowners threatened local Christians to stop the legal proceedings.

On June 23, 2011 a case was registered against 10 landlords U/S 297, PPC through the court intervention. The local police raided for the arrest of accused persons but they were still at large. The

accused party moved to Lahore High Court for termination of the case and they have also applied for pre-arrest bail. **NCJP**

2. Ahmadiyya graveyard: Dunyapur

On December 3, 2011 night, 29 graves in an Ahmadi graveyard were desecrated in Dunyapur, district Lodhran. Unidentified persons entered the graveyard and broke the plaques of a large number of graves, while digging around 29 others. Local representatives of the community approached police for legal action. Police asked the community to first rebuild their graves, then issue would be investigated. DPO Lodhran Agha Yusuf confirmed that the graveyard was desecrated, and that he would look into the case after investigation is completed. **Express Tribune December 5, 2011**

Evictions

800 Christian evicted, homes razed: Lahore

In Ittehad Colony, Gaju Matta Lahore, around 800 poor Christians were evicted from their homes on September 9 and 10, 2011 with less than a day notice, some could not even clear all the belongings out, before the bulldozers came in. This slum (150 houses) was demolished to create an alternative road to a nearby fruit and vegetable market. The community had lived in that location since 1998, when they moved in after being evicted from another slum to make way for a housing project.



Ittehad colony, Gaju Matta Lahore
Courtesy: www.christianpost.com

Authorities who promised to meet with the community leaders the day before were suddenly unavailable and out of town, and the police claimed that the residents had been told of the evictions several weeks before but the residents denied, saying that the first time they heard about eviction just a day before.

Minorities' concern of Pakistan

3. Graveyard of Christian community Lahore

Mr. Abdul Aleem Khan along with his companions grabbed the land of a graveyard of the Christian community situated in Shahpur

Kanjra, a locality in Lahore in July, 2010. The cemetery belonged to the local Christians even before Pakistan came into being. It covers an area of 10 kanals and 7 Marlas of land.

Few years back Mr. Abdul Aleem Khan, Ex Parliamentarian initiated "Pak View Villas", housing scheme next to the graveyard however later grabbed the land of the graveyard as well.

Mr. Khan reportedly posted armed men at the graveyard; closed the entry/exit gates and threatened the Christian Community to stop burying the dead bodies. Mr. Sattar Masih and Habib Masih, local Christians are looking into the situations. **NCJP**

Update: Land grabbers at large: Muzaffargarh

Christians alleged that Daira Din Panah police were reluctant to register a case against the 11 main accused for occupying the land of a cemetery at Chak 518-TDA on February 6, 2011.

They said the police arrested only four accused, Mr. Abdul Shakoore, Mr. Mohammad Buksh, Mr. Mohammad Idrees and Mr. Zafar, U/S 297, 511 and 447, PPC. They also demanded the registration of a case against the people who encroached upon the cemetery land in Azizabad, Chak # 2 and 3. **Dawn February 7, 2011**

Acquittal of three Ahmadis: Jhelum

Three Ahmadis Mr. Basharat, Mr. Nasir Ahmad and Mr. Muhammad Idrees, residents of Jhelum, who was sentenced to death in a faith-based fabricated accusation of murder by a Sessions Judge and were awaiting a decision on their appeal in the Lahore High Court were acquitted and released from prison on March 8, 2011. It was eighth year of their imprisonment despite innocence.

Ahmadi community

Burial Problems

1. Riaz Bhatti: Sialkot

Mr. Riaz Bhatti, an Ahmadi, died in village Rasulpur district Sialkot on February 26, 2011. It was the only Ahmadi family in the village; however, non-Ahmadi members of his clan lived in harmony with him. They arranged food for the mourners and visitors and assisted with the burial in the common graveyard.

However, a few persons from neighboring villages later raised objections and took the issue to authorities. The authorities set up a probing committee. A few anti-Ahmadi activists demanded that the Ahmadis join the mainstream Sunni Islam; they will withdraw their

objection to the burial.

Ahmadi community

2. Muhammad Anwar: Narowal

When Mr. Muhammad Anwar, an Ahmadi, died in Badomalhi district Narowal on March 10, 2011 his funeral prayer and burial took place in the common graveyard. A few miscreants approached police for removing the dead body and sent a threatening message to the bereaved family that they will have the Ahmadiyya mosque sealed.

The police sent for both the parties to present their case, 7 representatives of each group attended the meeting. The non-Ahmadis argued that as the Ahmadis had been declared non-Muslims, they have hurt their feelings by burying their dead in the Muslims' graveyard. They also demanded that a criminal case be registered against Ahmadi elders who should be punished. Ahmadis stated that the law did not require them to bury their dead separately, nor has the state provided any land for his purpose.

The police 'advised' Ahmadis not to bury their dead in the common graveyard in future and approach the authorities for the grant of land for the burial of their dead.

Ahmadi community

Social Discrimination and Economic Exploitation

1. Plights of tenants: Faisalabad

Two Christian brothers, Mr. Asif Masih (23) alias Kali and Mr. Khadim Masih (35) resident of Chak # 71/G.B, Jaranwala district Faisalabad were forced to work in the fields of Muslims Landlords named Mr. Javed Dogar, Mr. Sajid Dogar and Mr. Rauf Dogar belonged to Khurrianwala, district Faisalabad. As they refused to obey the orders of landlords, they were beaten and forcibly kept in illegal detention at unknown place.

The mother of brothers, Ms. Basheeran Bibi told that her sons had been working as laborers on Dogar's farms only for Rs. 2500 per month each. She told that they had taken Rs. 20000 as a loan from Dogar; therefore they have to prefer this meager salary.

When parents came to know their sons were maltreated, they decided not to work for the landlords. On refusal to work, Dogar brothers beat the father, Niamat Masih. They abused and threatened them of dire consequences if they did not work for them.

Since September 14, 2011 the family had no idea of their whereabouts. Dogars demanded Rs. 70,000 against the loan. The

parents filed an application with police against Dogar brothers for keeping her sons in illegal detention but the police intrigued with the culprits as one of them, Javed Dogar is a police constable. **NCJP**

2. Forced labor: Umerkot

An influential landlord, Mr. Kabir Ahmed, intruded Mr. Chatun Kolhi's house and attempted to pick up the Hindu women forcibly for cotton and pepper plucking on a well-known religious festival "the birthday of Kishan Baghwan" on August 23, 2011 on the outskirts of Kunri district Umerkot. When they refused to work as forced laborers, the landlord beat them including women, children and harassed them by aerial firing. **Jehd-e-Haq October, 2011**

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Social Discrimination and Religious Intolerance

Declaration on the rights of person belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities

1. The state shall take measures where required to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all their human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law. **Article 4**

Declaration on the Elimination of all forms of Intolerance and Discrimination based on Religion and Belief

Effective measures

4.1 All States shall take effective measures to prevent and eliminate discriminations on the grounds of religion or belief in the recognition, exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all fields of civil, economic, political, social and cultural life.

4.2 All States shall make all efforts to enact or rescind legislation where necessary to prohibit any discrimination and to take all appropriate measures to combat intolerance on the grounds or other beliefs in this matter. **Article 4**

National legislation

7.1 The rights and freedoms set forth in the present Declaration shall be accorded in national legislation in such a manner that everyone shall be able to avail himself of such rights and freedoms in practice. **Article 7**

Constitution of Pakistan

Equality before the law (Article 25)

1. All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law
2. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex alone.

26. Non-discrimination in respect of access to public places

1. In respect of access to places of public entertainment or resort not intended for religious purposes only, there shall be no discrimination against any citizen on the ground only of race, religion, caste, sex, residence or place of birth.

27. Safeguard against discrimination in services

1. No citizen otherwise qualified for appointment in the service of Pakistan shall be discriminated against in respect of any such appointment on the ground only of race, religion, caste, sex, residence or place of birth.

Provided that, for a period not exceeding forty years from the commencing day, posts may be reserved for persons belonging to any class or area to secure their adequate representation in the service of Pakistan.

Provided further that, in the interest of the said service, specified posts or services may be reserved for members of either sex if such posts or services entail the performance of duties and functions which cannot be adequately performed by members of the other sex.

Provided also that under-representation of any class or area in the service of Pakistan may be redressed in such manner as may be determined by an Act of Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament).

“Everybody of political note from the President downwards is anxious to assure the world that the religious minorities of Pakistan are treasured and cherished and their rights and freedoms properly protected. President Zardari met with a representative group of people from minority communities and listed the benefits that his government bestowed upon them a reservation of 5 percent quota in government jobs, a 100 percent increase in the Minority Development Fund and four minorities' seats in the Senate.

There are to be prayer rooms in all prisons for non-Muslims and the government is committed to ensuring that all minorities enjoy equal rights. Fine words indeed, but beyond the rhetoric designed as much for international consumption as domestic, lies a dark hinterland made up of intolerance, discrimination and violence.

On the very day that the President was extolling the virtues of his

government vis-a-vis minorities, the Adviser to the Prime Minister on Interior Affairs Rehman Malik prevented 250 Hindu families from going to India on the grounds that there was 'a conspiracy against Pakistan'. They eventually crossed the border on Friday evening despite the alleged conspiracy. Quite what the nature of this conspiracy might be is unclear, unlike the reasons that the Hindu families are leaving or fleeing. Entire families do not decide to leave the country on a whim; there has to be a compelling reason for them to give up their businesses and ancestral homes.

Reports of forced conversions of men and women, rising levels of violence against their persons and property, their shops looted and their houses invaded would appear to be compelling enough. Clearly, they are not all making these stories up and would rather have been left in peace to continue their lives. Nor the Christians who find their churches desecrated and are routinely relegated to menial jobs or denied promotions on the grounds of their faith. The minorities of Pakistan may be protected on paper and in the minds of self-deluding politicians, but in truth the state does little or nothing to protect them. This mindset must and will have to change."

The News, August, 12, 2012

Hindu migrating from Pakistan to India

On 13 August at least 250 people - all Hindu family groups crossed the Wagah border between India Pakistan, recounting that they had "been through hell", marginalization and torture and asking for asylum

Local TV Channels

The US State Department's annual International Religious Freedom report for 2011 says that there have been instances in which law enforcement personnel in Pakistan have reportedly abused religious minorities while in police custody. The report highlighted the state of religious freedom in several countries, says that some government practices in Pakistan have limited the freedom of religion, particularly in the case of religious minorities.

"Abuses under the blasphemy law and other discriminatory laws continued; the government did not take adequate measures to prevent these incidents or reform the laws to prevent abuse. Since the government rarely investigated or prosecuted the perpetrators of increased extremist attacks on religious minorities and members of the Muslim majority promoting tolerance, the climate of impunity continued."

The executive summary of the report said that there was an

increase in intolerance and violence against minorities and those Muslims promoting tolerance. "There were reports of societal abuses or discrimination based on religious affiliation, belief, or practice."

The report said many hesitated to speak out in favor of religious tolerance in light of the killings of Salman Taseer, the Governor of Punjab, and Shahbaz Bhatti, the Federal Minister for Minorities.

Highlighting intolerance in the press, the report said that some Urdu newspapers in the country "frequently published articles that contained derogatory references to religious minorities, especially Ahmadis, Hindus, and Jews." Additionally, "some Sunni Muslim groups published literature calling for violence against Ahmadis, Shia Muslims, other Sunni sects, and Hindus." The State Department report said that while Madrassas in Pakistan were barred from teaching sectarian or religious hatred, yet in recent years "a small yet influential number of Madrassas have taught extremist doctrine in support of terrorism in violation of the law."

The Express Tribune, August 1st, 2012.

Protecting minorities

Sometimes, rage in the name of religion in our country reaches such an extent that some members go so far as to not even spare a small, one-room Hindu temple. The Shri Krishna Bhagwan Mandir in Karachi was attacked by an angry mob on Youm-e-Ishq-e-Rasool .The temple's caretaker was brought to tears when 150 people carrying rocks and sticks snatched adornments from the statues, which were brought from India over a decade ago. While protesting Muslims received the support of Pakistan's religious minority groups over the blasphemous video, this is the 'gratitude' one of those communities received in return. This time, however, the police, finally appearing to operate in a fair manner, dealt a blasphemy charge against the Muslim men responsible for the desecration, under Section 295-A, punishing "deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs".

Apart from this most disconcerting state of matters, in which protesters of a peaceful religion displayed hatred and greed towards members of a minority group and perhaps the fact that followers of all religions and faiths deserve equal treatment under the law. An act of hatred towards a minority community must be regarded as inexcusable and reviewed until the wrongdoers face the consequences of their actions. We cannot allow such barbaric

scenes from the past, of Sikh men eventually having to attack the angry mob back with daggers to stop them from destroying the Hindu temple.

Building religious tolerance in the country has a long way to go but the police, meanwhile, must support minorities in coming forth and reporting hate crimes. It is not right to let minorities live paralysed in fear because this would be following in the footsteps of the Taliban, which also force people to live in fear.

The Express Tribune, October 5, 2012.

Christian woman humiliated, son shot at

On 17th March 2012, a family in Gojra (Chak No. 179 GB) is attacked by some Muslims because they like to "dress up nicely". The mother was brutally beaten, harassed and humiliated in public by some Muslims landlord's brothers Sajid Ali and Abid Ashan, while her son was shot at, luckily without consequences. Police and the courts fail to apprehend the offenders. The local priest says that such violence is used to impose a "conditions of inferiority".



A Christian family beaten up as they dress nicely
Courtesy: Asianews

Initially, police filed a report and arrested the offenders however, a week later they were released. The reason for their action appears even more absurd than the action itself. They do not want Christians to "dress up", even on holidays or Sunday for Church Service. Shamin Bibi filed a case against her attackers, appearing before a district judge in Gojra. The latter however rejected her application.

NCJP

The poisoned tea

Nine Christian trainee nurses at the Civil Hospital Karachi fell ill allegedly after drinking poisoned tea prepared at their hostel during the month of Ramadan.

Mr. Saleem Khokhar, the Christian member Provincial Assembly Sindh demanded a higher investigation to find out the cause of poisoning. Condemning the incident, Christian leader Michael Javed, also asked for a judicial investigation. The Christian

community also organized a press conference at the Karachi Press Club. William Sadiq, the coordinator of a welfare organization alleged that the hospital administration was hiding the real matter. According to one of the affected nurses, a colleague had made the tea after 10pm and immediately after drinking the tea they fell ill. They were taken to



Protest by Christian Community at Karachi press club.
Source: Express Tribune

the Civil hospital's emergency and sent back after treatment. The hospital registered a case with Police and tea samples were sent for toxicology tests. However the case was closed as the chemical report did not show toxic materials in the sample.

Ms. Rita James, one of the affected nurses said, "My throat was choked after drinking the tea, was difficult for me to breathe. We (9 nurses) were together in a room and one of us went to make tea in the shared kitchen, when she had gone to bring sugar from her the room the water was boiling in kitchen for a few minutes, someone could have mixed something during that time. It looks like an attempt to kill us but I cannot nominate anyone because we have not seen anyone entering the kitchen and poisoning the tea".

Express Tribune, August 1st, 2012/ NCJP

Ahmadi Murder:

23 years old Muhammad Ahmad was shot dead when he was leaving his place of business in Gulistan-e-Jauher Karachi, while his brother-in-law Shams Fakhri, 45 was critically injured. He received five bullets.

Mr. Muhammad Nawaz, also an Ahmadi was shot dead in similar fashion on 12 September; and another Ahmadi Mr. Abdul Ghaffar was shot dead on September 7. The family told that Mr. Muhammad Ahmad had no personal animosity with anyone but he was receiving threats from last many months because of his faith. The spokesperson of Ahmadi community, Saleemuddin, urged the police and law enforcement agencies to investigate this brazen attack and bring the culprits to justice. For a while now, clerics at a certain

mosque in the area have been delivering hateful sermons against the Ahmadi community.

The Express Tribune, September 17, 2012

Hate violence: Ahmadi leader gunned down in Karachi

Mukarram Naeem Ahmed Gondal, president of Orangi Town chapter, was shot by two men on a motorbike as he was leaving his residence for work. Gondal, 52, was working as an assistant director for the State Bank of Pakistan.

An FIR was lodged by the police and the investigations were underway. According to the Jamaat committee member, there are about 700 to 800 Ahmadis living in Orangi Town who, he claims, are being watched whenever they congregate at their place of worship. The committee member said neither law enforcement agencies nor the city's two dominant political parties; namely Muttahida Qaumi Movement and Pakistan Peoples Party were delivering when it comes to protection of minorities.

The Express Tribune, July 20, 2012.

Ahmadi school teacher gunned down

Abdul Ghaffar, a government school teacher and resident of Saeedabad, was gunned down in Lyari, said the Chakiwara police. Ghaffar, was shot dead on his way home from work by two men on a motorcycle. According to a spokesperson from the Ahmadi community, Ghaffar was the father of four children and had worked at the school for 15 years. "It was a targeted attack, we have told all our community members to be careful but no precaution seems to be enough."

The Express Tribune, September 7th, 2012.

Injured in Nawab Shah

In Nawab Shah, 125 miles northeast of Karachi, a local Ahmad farmer Alwi was targeted with multiple gunshots leaving him fighting for his life at a local hospital. According to Maqsood Khan, Alwi's older brother Hanif was also shot to death two years ago. Talking about the string of attacks in Sindh, Maqsood Khan said that few months ago, another Ahmadi Muslim, Naeem Gondal was killed in Karachi and before that a senior Ahmadi elder, Peer Habib Rehman, was killed in Sanghar area of Sind. **Ahmadiyya Times**

Targeted attack leaves one Ahmadi dead, three hurt

An Ahmadi was shot dead while his father, brother and father-in-law were injured in a targeted attack in Baldia Town, Karachi. The family was heading home after prayers from a worship place near their house when four armed assailants on two motorcycles fired a volley

of bullets at them near Dakkhana Chowrangi. Saad, 25, who was on his motorcycle, was killed while his father Farooq, 55, brother Hammad, 23, and father-in-law Nusrat, 50, who were in the car, were injured.

Despite being shot five times, Farooq continued to drive the car and managed to reach Abbasi Shaheed Hospital where his young son died while the injured were shifted to Aga Khan University Hospital. Their condition was stated to be critical. Farooq owned a business of generators and his son Saad is an electrical engineer. Only two days ago, Saad had had his walima (wedding) reception. Hammad was to leave for England a day after to pursue his MBA degree. "The car had slowed down due to a speed breaker when we were fired at from the front and both sides," Farooq's brother-in-law Ashraf, an agriculturist from Punjab told "I ducked for cover when the firing started but when I looked out, there was no one outside."

Terming it communal violence, SP Baldia division Shahjahan Khan said that the police were trying to establish the link between the latest and the previous attacks on Ahmadis. "We have to ascertain whether the same group or individuals are behind the killings." "As there was adequate security at the worship place, the family was targeted on their way home by the attackers," the SP added.

The Express Tribune, October, 2012.

Kidnap

Moomal Meghwar: Tharparkar

Moomal Meghwar (12) D/o Rano, resident of Tharparkar, was kidnapped from brick kiln by a gang of armed men near Kureri, Sindh. Police refused to lodge their report. Her family members demonstrated in front of press club Kureri.

Meanwhile Kishan Chand Parwani president All Pakistan Hindu Panchayat and member of national assembly (MNA) and leaders of APHP Karachi chapter Mohan Manjani, Barma Jesrani, Raj Kumar and comrade Amarlal have made appeal to international community, UNO, human rights organizations, Sindhi nationalists and others to help stop kidnapping of Hindu girls and recover the kidnapped Hindu girls. They said if Moomal was not recovered immediately then they will be listening news on media about her conversion to Islam.

PCP, November 13, 2012

Killings attributed to religious intolerance

Dhayan Chand Bhagri: Hyderabad

Mr. Dhayan Chand Bhagri, a Hindu cattle dealer was shot dead by robbers on October 28, 2012 in Latifabad, within the jurisdiction of

the A-section police station. Armed men allegedly robbed Rs. 720,000 from Bhagri as he was returning home after selling animals in the Latifabad cattle market.

The Express Tribune October 30, 2012

Chanesar Odh: Umerkot

Mr. Chanesar Odh (30), a Hindu farmer, was killed by a landlord and his men when he went fishing with other farmers near Sufi Faqeer on September 1, 2012.

The other farmers were identified as Harchand Odh, Jumhon Odh and Dodo Odh were injured and taken to hospital. The authorities registered an FIR against Ahmed Sehto, Khalid Sehto, Daya Ram Kohli, Veelo, Aalam, Man Singh, Bhagwano, Teekmo and Kombho Kohli. Ahmed Sehto was arrested by the police.

The Express Tribune September 4, 2012

Saad Farooq: Karachi

Mr. Saad (25), an Ahmadi, was killed while his father Farooq (55), brother Hammad (23) and father-in-law Nusrat (50), who were in the car, were injured in Baldia Town on October 19, 2012.

The family was heading home after prayers from a worship place near their house when four armed assailants on two motorcycles fired a volley of bullets at them.

The Express Tribune October 20, 2012

Abdul Qudoos Ahmad: Rabwah

Master Abdul Qudoos Ahmad (43) an Ahmadi school teacher, was allegedly tortured to death while in police custody in Rabwah on March 30, 2012.

He was taken into custody by the police in the first week of February, 2012 for questioning in the murder case of Muhammad Yousuf.

Ahmadiyya Times March 31, 2012

Manzoor Ahmad: Quetta

Manzoor Ahmad (a local businessman) was shot dead on Nov. 11, 2012 while walking to work. He was targeted by killers riding on motorcycles in Satellite Town, Quetta. **Ahmadiyya Times**

Raja Abdul Hamid Khan and Bashir Ahmad: Karachi

Abdul Hamid (44) a Homeopathic doctor and Bashir Ahmad (72) a general store owner were gunned down in two separate incidents of target killing in Baldia Town on October 23, 2012.

The Express Tribune October 24, 2012

Khawaja Zahur Ahmad: Sargodha

Mr. Khawaja Zahur Ahmad (64), an Ahmadi, was shot dead near his home in Satellite Town on October 4, 2012. The bullet struck him below the right ear. He was rushed the hospital but died on way.

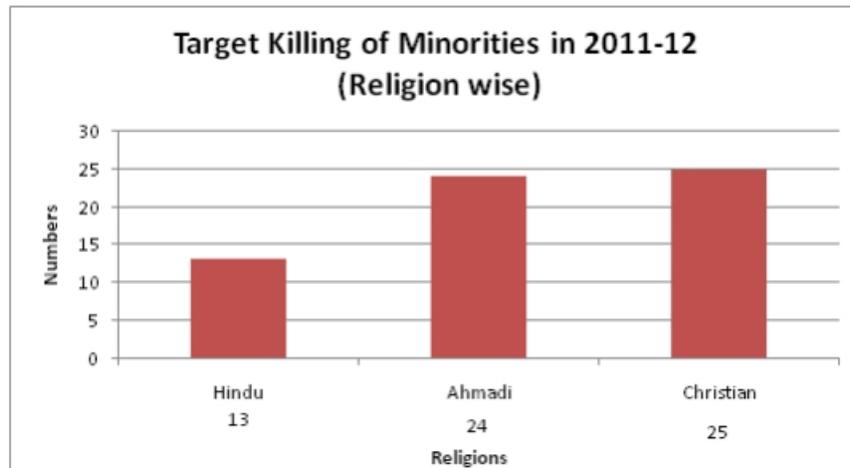
www.persecutionofahmadis.org

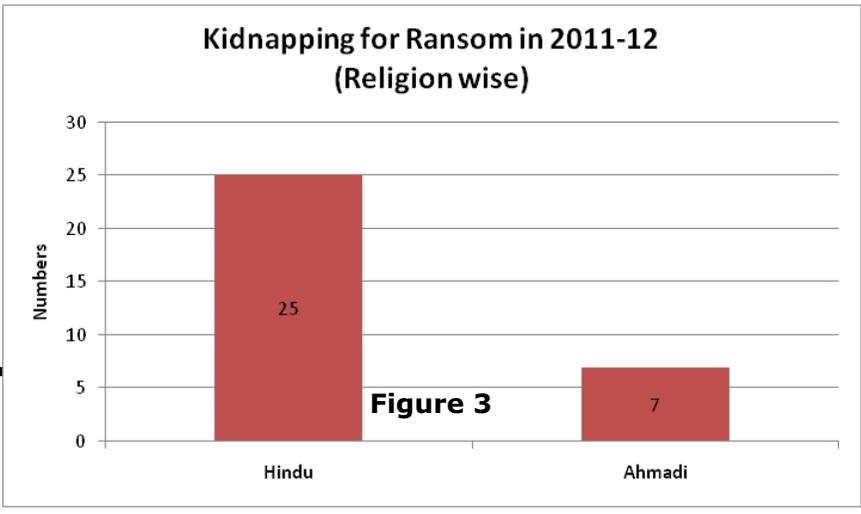
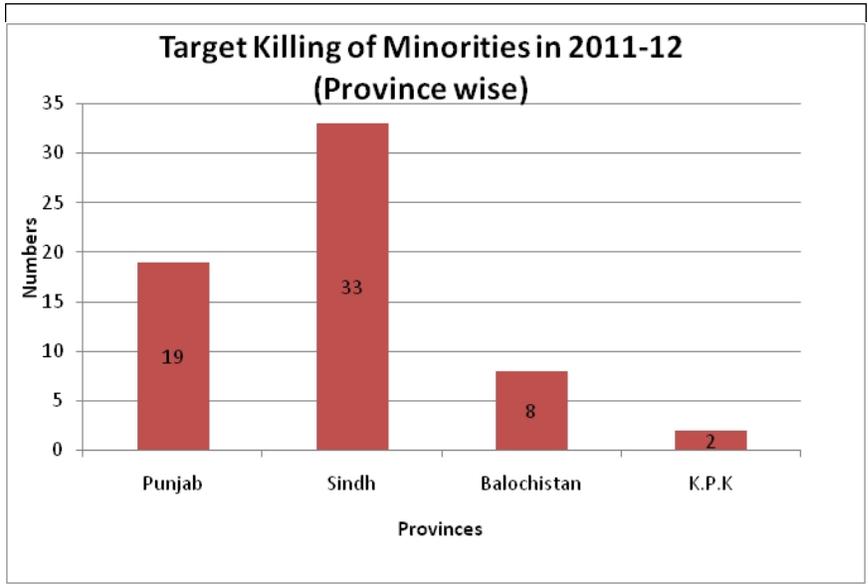
Riaz Ahmad Basra: Sialkot

Mr. Riaz Ahmad Basra was shot dead in Ghatialian, District Sialkot on October 18, 2012 on his way home from the mosque after evening prayers.

www.persecutionofahmadis.org

**Graphical Presentation of Data
(For details please see tables in chapter Social
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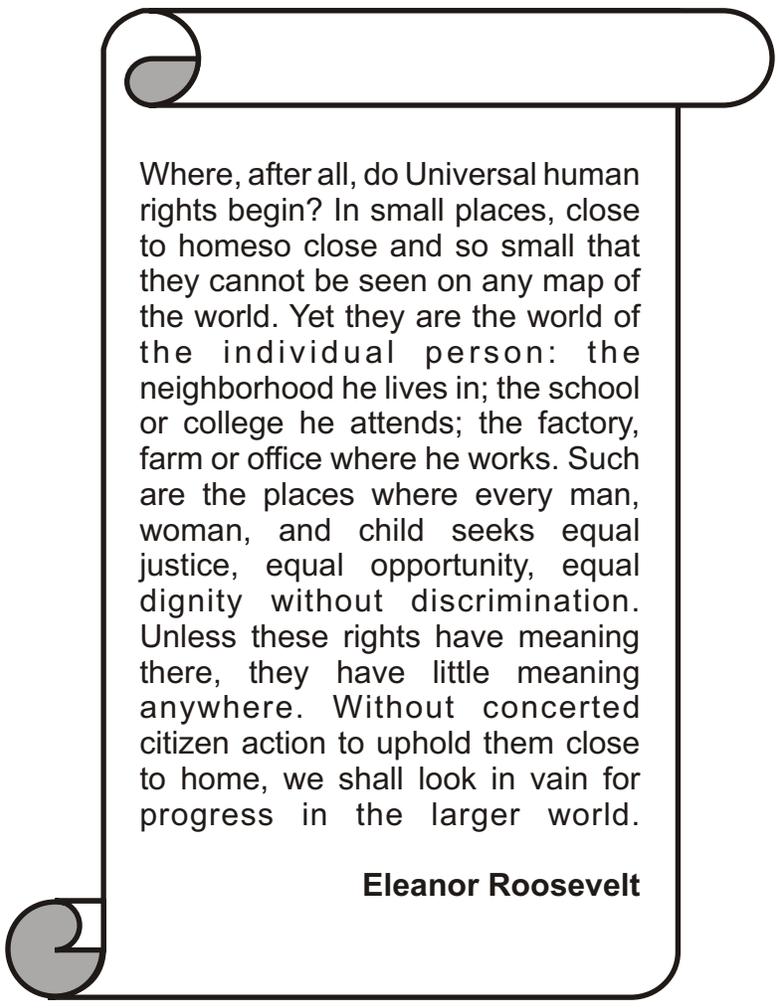
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A scroll-shaped frame with a black outline and a grey shadow on the left side, containing text. The scroll is unrolled at the top and bottom.

Where, after all, do Universal human rights begin? In small places, close to homes so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any map of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person: the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Religious Freedom

Constitution of Pakistan

Freedom to profess religion and to manage religious institutions... Subject to law, public order and morality:

- a) Every citizen shall have the right to profess, practice and propagate his religion; and
- b) Every religious denomination and every sect there shall have the right to establish, maintain and manage its religious institution.

Article 20

Nine Specific rights

In accordance with Article 1 of the present Declaration, and subject to the provisions of Article 1, paragraph 3, the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief shall include, inter alia, the following freedoms:

- 6.1** To worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief, and to establish and maintain places for these purposes;
- 6.2** To establish and maintain appropriate charitable or humanitarian institutions;
- 6.3** To make, acquire and use to an adequate extent the necessary articles and materials related to the rites and customs of a religion or belief;
- 6.4** To write, issue and disseminate relevant publications in these areas;
- 6.5** To teach a religion or belief in places suitable for these purposes;
- 6.6** To solicit and receive voluntary financial and other contributions from individuals and institutions;
- 6.7** To train, appoint, elect or designate by succession appropriate leaders called for by the requirements and standards of any religion or belief;
- 6.8** To observe days of rest and to celebrate holidays and ceremonies in accordance with the precepts of one's religion or belief;
- 6.9** To establish and maintain communications with individuals and communities in matters of religion or belief

at the national and international level;

Discriminatory Laws

Declaration on the Elimination of all forms of Intolerance and Discrimination based on Religion and Belief:

Effective measures:

- 4.1** All States shall take effective measures to prevent and eliminate discriminations on the grounds of religion or belief in the recognition, exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all fields of civil, economic, political, social and cultural life.
- 4.2** All States shall make all efforts to enact or rescind legislation where necessary to prohibit any discrimination, and to take all appropriate measures to combat intolerance on the grounds or other beliefs in this matter. **Article 4**

National legislation:

- 7.1** The rights and freedoms set forth in the present Declaration shall be accorded in national legislation in such a manner that everyone shall be able to avail himself of such rights and freedoms in practice. **Article 7**

Religious freedom

Freedom of religion and belief essentially means freedom to worship, assemble, publicize establish and run religious institutions, declare ones faith publically and voluntarily (on occasions appropriate). In that sense one can say most Pakistanis enjoy religious freedom, even too much of it, in sarcastic opinion.

Among the supporting elements there are some constitutional guarantees in place, peoples' resistance to any moves to take away their religious liberty and culturally speaking the coexistence of diverse religious traditions in Indian subcontinent spanning over a few millennia.

The freedom of religion comes under threat in Pakistani in the present context and freedom of religion is only partially enjoyed by citizens especially when assessed from broad sense of the term. In the broader sense religious freedom would mean freedom of conscience, and to express ones religion and belief freely, to change and re-change ones religion, have religion or not have any religion. The conversion is an issue rather than a freedom in Pakistan because the majority population cannot exercise this freedom while

it is presumed that Non-Muslims converting to Islam is but logical, and always judicious.

The international law saw the inter-connectedness of different rights thus defined human rights as indivisible and inseparable in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The international law progressively added on to the understanding and space for religious freedom in ICCPR in the later international treaties. The UN's Human Rights Committee said on July 28, 2011 that freedom of expression was a "meta-right" underpinning all human rights everywhere. This was Committee response to a prolonged debate on the issue of Defamation of Religions on which a resolution had been tabled and passed 12 times till then on different UN Forums including the General Assembly.

A long-awaited document from the panel of 18 jurists, including three hailing from Muslim majority countries, also said that freedom of opinion, and by extension religion, should not be restricted under any circumstances and warned governments that did so they would be violating a basic UN accord. The independent experts set out their trenchant stance in a general comment on how parts of the UN's Covenant on Civil and Political Rights should be interpreted and applied.

Pakistan cannot claim to have religious freedom for Ahmadi citizens till, for instance, Section 298 C, PPC is part of the statutes. This law bars Ahmadis from propagating their religion. There are several other laws and regulations that restrict their freedoms, while the blasphemy laws and the horrific application of these laws undoubtedly impinges upon the freedom of religion and belief of all citizens. Even of those who happen to believe that the laws don't (discussed at length in Chapter 4).

Overture that nearly had the words Jesus and Christ banned from text messaging in 2011 is an example of infringement of rights by law makers and enforcers when they behave over-protective about a religion, in this case the majority religion. The implementation can fail the very purpose of religious freedom when loses sight and importance of respecting all, more importantly the vulnerable. The Sikh community was forcibly and unnecessarily stopped from holding their prayer gathering when someone thought their freedom to worship will meddle with that of majority group on Shab-e-Barat.

In a society with several minority sects and religions, if exercising

religious freedom by one group requires others to surrender their freedoms and rights, it degrades the overall environment. The use of amplifiers/loudspeakers in places of worship is the example at hand. No one has explained why amplifiers should be allowed in places of worship when several governments have admittedly struggled hard to have a code of conduct implemented. Looking at the fact that score of time mob violence is triggered by hate speech and incitement through loudspeakers it would be imperative to have a strict code of conduct about the use or abuse of amplifier.

Ban on Bible

A group of Muslim clerics demanded banning the Bible, alleging that several stories have been interested into it charging various Prophets with a variety of moral crimes which undermines sanctity of the holy figures.

Addressing a press conference at Masjid-e-Khizra, members of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Maulana Samiul Haq, the former Senator, Maulana Abdul Rauf Farooqi and others appealed to the Supreme Court of Pakistan to take suo motu notice of the "blasphemous" materials added to the Bible or they would move the court for banning the book, for which a panel of lawyers was already working.

The News May 31, 2011

'Jesus Christ' Banned From Text Messages

The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) sent a letter to mobile phone companies saying they should block text messages containing certain words and phrases, and among those 1600 phrases and words are "Jesus Christ" and "Got Jesus."

According to the letter, the right to freedom of speech and freedom of the press, were "subject to any reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interest of the glory of Islam," among other things. The letter establishes that "harmful, fraudulent, misleading, illegal or unsolicited messages in bulk to any person without express permission of the recipient" as spam, and says it is the responsibility of telecommunications companies to block such messages.

Bytes for All (BFA), a human rights organization in Pakistan BFA expressed its concerns about the "moral policing" in Pakistan, and how it will affect the nation's citizens, in an article posted to the organization's website on November 18, 2011 (In 2012 the Authority announced the revision of the list of words banned for text messages there was also the name of Jesus Christ).

Bytes for All, November 18, 2011

Refused to print religious pictures: Okara

A printing press in Okara refused to print religious pictures of Jesus Christ and a Holy Cross. The owner of the press said that printing order did not comply with their policy. **Agahi News**

Worship stopped

Sikhs Kept out of their own place of worship: Lahore

The Sikh community was stopped from conducting a religious celebration at place of worship (Gurdwara) in Lahore. Their musical instruments were thrown out and their entry barred, after a Muslim religious group persuaded the Evacuee Trust



Sikhs kept out of their own place of worship.
Source: Express Tribune

Property Board (ETPB) that the Sikh religious festival would not look fancy together with the Muslim holy day of Shab-e-Barat (a night of worship and prayers). Police was deployed outside the temple to prevent the Sikhs from conducting their religious ceremonies until the end of Shab-e-Barat **The Express Tribune July 17, 2011**

Construction barred: Sialkot

The local Ahmadiyya community at Ghatayalian Kalan district Sialkot reconstructed their mosque as it was in a state of decay. When its roof was to be installed, the police stopped the further work in January 2011 on the complaint of a local cleric. The police told the Ahmadis to seek permission from the government to proceed further. "Permission from higher authorities is neither required nor is it likely to be granted" said the community members.

Ahmadi community report

Confiscation of Ahmadiyya publications

According to daily Khabrain of November 10, 2011 the Punjab Government proscribed a number of religious publications including four Ahmadiyya publications and ordered all their copies to be forfeited. **Daily Al-Sharq November 10, 2011**

Citizens at peril

1. Someone's paradise others' hell: Karachi

Mr. Zain* (23), a Christian, was admitted to the emergency ward of

the Civil Hospital Karachi after he was shot and wounded as he passed by a crossfire. While his worried parents and sister stood around waiting for the doctor's verdict, men in green turbans and high shalwars swooped down on Zain. "Brother, you must denounce your infidel ways. Kalma parhein (recite the Kalma)," they told Zain who was barely conscious and obviously in immense pain. "Become a Muslim, and God will forgive you all your transgressions against him. Die a Muslim!" Zain's sister (17) pleaded with them once to leave the family alone. "My brother is in pain. Please, let us take care of him," she said. In response, one of the men turned around and gruffly told her to shut up. "Do not interfere in God's work," she was told.

In their quest for supposed divine rewards, they ignore the pleas of the family. Zain's parents pulled aside. "We know the consequences of interfering," his father said quietly after the men had left when Zain, who had lost consciousness by then, did not respond.

"If we try to stop them, they will accuse us of maybe insulting their religion. We don't want to be charged with blasphemy. Who will listen to us?" he asked. Zain wasn't the only victim. The group of green-turbaned men went around to every bed, asking attendants of patients if they were Muslim. If they replied in the affirmative, they were asked to recite the Kalima to 'prove' it. It must be noted that these attendants were already harassed most of the patients in the ward were in critical condition; they were either victims of roadside or household accidents or had gunshot wounds that needed attention.

Nurses in the area, meanwhile, pretended to look the other way. "We're already understaffed and have too much to deal with. We can't handle this additional headache. Let them do what they want. The patients' attendants can deal with them," they said.

Similar scenes are repeated regularly at every government run hospital in the city. While security at these organizations is minimal, even the guards that are present don't try to stop the evangelists. "Who are we to interfere in the work of God," Saleem, a guard on duty outside the emergency ward at the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre claimed, shrugging helplessly. "If someone converts to Islam this way, we will get Savaab too. These men help the patients and their families get spiritual peace."

Ahmadiyya Times

2. Gulshan Masih: Sialkot

Mr. Gulshan Masih (35), a Christian of village Chawinda, district Sialkot and father of five was threatened with blasphemy charges if he did not convert to Islam or leave the home.

Gulshan, with his brothers Vero, Jacky, Robin, a sister and mother, lived in the same house. Vero and Robin converted to Islam while Gulshan, his sister and mother remained Christians. One day Robin, who has a Muslim wife, brought some clerics with him to terrorize Gulshan. Robin accused Gulshan that whenever he performed prayers, Gulshan turned on his religious songs that irritate them. The clerics insulted the family and threatened to implicate him in blasphemy case. They offered Gulshan a hard choice; become a Muslim or leave the house. Gulshan's family, his sister and mother had to leave their house.

NCJP

Conversions

Mr. Aoun Sahi, a well know investigative journalist wrote in The News on Sunday (TNS) maintaining that Pakistani Christians were converting to Islam because of threat and intimidation.

"This is the rate is 60 per month. In one Madrassa in Lahore alone, 678 Christians embraced Islam in 2009. In 2010, they were almost 700. On February 2011, Ms. Azra Bibi (40) entered the reception of Jamia Naeemia (a religious seminary) with her son (10), a leading Sunni-Barelvi Madrassa situated in a congested area of Lahore. Accompanied by a Muslim witness Mr. Chaudhry Muhammad Islam (45), Ms. Azra a recent convert to Islam along with her six children asked for the Imam (a prayer leader in a mosque) of the Jamia. She came here to get proper documents to prove in the court that she was no longer a Christian.

The young receptionist at Jamia Naeemia talks to the principal on telephone opens the side drawer of his dented metal table and pulls out a two-inch-thick book wrapped in a blue cover. He finds a blank page and starts writing her details.

The book is a registry used to keep record of religious conversions to Islam. One book is enough to record 100 cases of conversions. A newly built wooden cabinet brimming with many such books is used to store the record. Officials at the Madrassa say the number of people converting from other religions, especially Christianity, to Islam is on the rise here. At least 50 to 60 Christians embrace Islam each month by signing a white and green paper on the book declaring that they accept Islam without any greed or pressure and promise to 'remain in the religion of Islam for the rest of the life', and

will try to spend life according to the principles of Islam.

Raghib Naeemi, Principal Jamia Naeemia, says that his institute has no department for preaching. "All those who convert to Islam come to Jamia on their own, accompanied by some Muslims of their locality as witnesses. We have made it a prerequisite for the aspirant converts to submit an affidavit declaring that they are embracing Islam without greed or force." He says that all Christians who convert to Islam do not do so because they like this religion. "Some of them convert to Islam because they want to end their marriage which is not easy in Christianity, or they want to marry a cousin or a Muslim girl or boy. Over 90 per cent of the converts are illiterate."

The record at Jamia Naeemia reveals that 678 Christians converted to Islam in 2009, the number reached 693 in 2010 while 95 Christians have so far embraced Islam this year.

Badshahi Mosque is another institution that issues certificate to those who convert to Islam. Muhammad Yousuf, assistant protocol officer at the mosque, says rarely a day goes without some cases of conversion. "Sometimes dozens of people convert to Islam during a day. Overwhelming, majority of them come from Christian minority," he tells TNS.

Peter Jacob, a human right activist, says it is no surprise some of Pakistan's three millions Christians are adopting Islam nowadays. "These are troublesome and dangerous days for the country's religious minorities. People have no faith in the police or the justice system and the kind of fear that exists now was never there before," he says.

Legally, there is no bar on religious conversion. "But in Pakistan only one-way conversion to Islam is allowed that can be very fatal to religious diversity in the country. It is not only Christians in Pakistan who are scared. All minorities are under pressure."

Jacob thinks that security has become a major reason for marginalized and discriminated Christian community to convert to Islam. "Blasphemy laws are also being misused to pressurize Christians to convert to Islam."

Azra Bibi whose husband remains Christian and lives separately from his wife and child says that she has converted to Islam only because she feels it is the most beautiful religion. "Now, it feels great and I have moved to a Muslim neighborhood. I feel safer." A

woman from the neighborhood comes to them daily after dinner to teach her and her children Islam and its practices. That day at the Madrassa, as Azra Bibi collected her certificate declaring her a Muslim and prepared to leave, a young couple entered the reception. Mr. Pervaiz Masih (23), a rickshaw driver and his cousin Ms. Nasreen (22) seemed in a hurry to convert to Islam. But the officials at Jamia were hesitant, as they did not have two Muslim witnesses accompanying them. "I like Islam and want to embrace it. I want to be known as Muhammad Pervaiz. I will be secure now and will take decisions of my choice after converting to Islam".

Masih's reference was marriage to his cousin, Nasreen who had slipped away from her home to come to Jamia with him. She was hesitant to elaborate why she wanted to convert to Islam. "I like Islam," was all she said.

The preamble to the constitution of Pakistan guarantees that adequate provision shall be made for minorities to freely profess and practice their religions and develop their culture. The Enforcement of Shariah (Islamic law) Act 1991 was promulgated on June 18, 1991 whereby the Islamic Shariah was enforced as the supreme law of the land. But under clause 4 of Section 1, it was provided that "Nothing contained in this Act shall affect the personal laws, religious freedom, traditions, customs and way of life of the non-Muslims."

But the situation on ground is altogether different. For instance, Tahir Iqbal, a Muslim who converted to Christianity was accused of committing blasphemy in 1990 in Lahore. Then additional session judge of Lahore dismissed his bail application on July 7, 1991, and passed the following order:

"Learned counsel for the petitioner has conceded before me that the petitioner has converted to Christianity. With this admission on the part of the petitioner's counsel there is no need to probe further into allegations. Since conversion is in itself a cognizable offence involving serious implications, I do not consider the petitioner is entitled to bail at this stage". Interestingly, there is no law in Pakistan that makes conversion from Islam to any other religion an offence.

Human Right activists say there is no mechanism to gauge whether the Christians converting to Islam have been doing it under their own free will or duress. "We receive many cases every year in which Christian girls are abducted and forced to marry Muslim men," I.A.

Rehman, Director Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, tells. "Security is a major reason these days for minorities to convert to Islam. We have registered cases in which people are deprived of their jobs on the basis of their faith, admissions to colleges and schools are denied and then there are social taboos that result in discrimination. All these factors can lead to religious conversion."

The News March 16, 2011

Hindu girls converted: Karachi

Reported in Mashriq the Karachi Hindu Panchayat complained that Hindu girls were being forcibly converted by the Muslim clergy and wedded to Muslim boys. Each month 20 to 22 cases of this conversion were coming to light. One Hindu complained that his daughter was now wedded to a Muslim and was not allowed to meet her parents. Jamia Banuria, the largest seminary in Karachi denied that 200 girls converted in the last two months were converted forcibly.

Friday Times December 2- 8, 2011

1. Anita Kumar: Naushahro Feroze (Sindh)

Ms. Anita Kumar, (22), a mother of two children, was abducted on April 27, 2011 from her house at Mohalla Surya Moro district Naushahro Feroze when her Hindu husband, Suresh Kumar, was not at home. Her two children were beaten up by the abductors and were locked in the house. Police registered case after lots of efforts by the Hindu community. Police said that she left willingly. Mr. Kumar accused Mr. Pervez Ali Naich, a Muslim and others were the abductors.

The Hindu community also filed a habeas corpus petition in the Sindh High Court Sukkur bench. On the hearing only the lawyers from the accused appeared. The lawyer of the accused, Ali, produced a Muslim marriage certificate and some papers from the Court of Sadiqabad, from Punjab province. The court did not question why the matter was taken to Punjab province whereas the case belonged to Sindh province. The court rather announced that she had embraced Islam by marrying a Muslim man. The court did see the even she converted to Islam she had to dissolve her marriage with her first marriage under some law.

AHRC

2. 37 Hindus converted to Islam: Badin (Sindh)

37 people from seven Hindu families converted to Islam in Matli district Badin on December 10, 2011. They claimed that more families will be embracing the religion in the coming weeks

Express Tribune December 13, 2011

3. Bharati: Karachi

Ms. Bharati (15), a Hindu, was abducted, converted and forcibly married off against her will in the Lyari area of Karachi.

According to her father, Narayan Das, Bharti went missing on December 12, 2011, after she accompanied her friend to a nearby store in the Baghdadi area of Lyari. "She used to learn stitching at a training centre in the area. As soon as she came back home around noon, one of her friends came and asked her mother to let her accompany her. After that we didn't see her." Das alleged that a "notorious" police constable, Abid was behind her abduction and conversion. "He is known as an alcoholic", Das claimed.

He filed an application with police on December 15, 2011 but the police did not register an FIR till December 18, 2011. Mr. Amarnath of the HRCP told that the girl was threatened not to revert to her original religion or else she would be liable to a death penalty. "As a result, she is confused and is scared to go back home."

The police refuted the claim made by Das that Bhartai had been forcibly converted. "Both the girl and the boy, Abid, are in police custody and they have a certificate of marriage which was registered after the girl converted at the Jamia Binnoria as Ayesha." Das refused to accept the police version and claimed that the age of her daughter has been changed in the marriage certificate. He is waiting for the case to be heard at a Sessions court on December 30, 2011. Amarnath said that forced conversion of Hindu women in Karachi as well as Sindh has become a common. "There is no one to listen to the ordeal of the families," he says.

The News December 30, 2011

4. Azeeqa: Sialkot

Ms. Azeeqa (18), a Christian, was kidnapped by her neighbor Mr. Muhammad Bilal (20) in the absence of her parents on July 30, 2011 at village Wasun Kay, Sambrial, district Sialkot and forcibly converted to Islam and married with her abductor. **NCJP**

5. Rebecca and Saima: Jhang

Two Christian girls, Rebecca Masih and Saima Masih, were kidnapped by a group of Muslims and forced to convert to Islam and get married, in Jhang district. As explained by their father, Rehmat Masih, a few days ago a wealthy local businessman, Muhammad Waseem, had previously warned that he wanted to marry the two girls, threatened to kidnap them and convert them by force.

On May 24, 2011 the two girls were kidnapped while returning from

the market. Rehmat rushed to the police. The officers, after completing the investigation, said that "there are false accusations against Waseem," and that Rehmat, often gets drunk and starts assaulting his daughters, so they might have ran away unable to bear the torture. Other witnesses and neighbors instead swear that Rehmat is a respectable man and has never harmed his daughters. On May 25, Waseem married Saima Masih, in the presence of the leader Mr. Muhammad Zubair Qasim, an active member of the banned extremist group "Sip-e-Sahaba". At last, the police said to Rehmat to "forget his daughters."
Agenzia Fides

6. Minors' issue: Lahore

A Christian girl (12) was abducted and reportedly raped for eight months by a Muslim Muhammad Irfan and was tortured until she consented to convert to Islam.

Her father Arif Masih filed an under section 164 Cr P.C. against unknown person on January 5, 2011 with police in Lahore. However, the police took no action for eight months. The girl was lured on a shopping trip in Lahore by a friend, before she was driven 120 miles to district Faisalabad and raped by the friend's uncle Irfan in January 2011. Two days later, she was forced to sign papers consenting to marriage with the man and beaten for refusing to convert from Christianity to Islam. The victim managed to escape eight months later, but police refuse to prosecute rapists because they are tied to militant Islam group. The police warned the Christian parents that it would be better to hand over the girl to her 'legal' husband otherwise a criminal case will be filled against them.
AHRC

7. Mehek Masih: Gujranwala

Ms. Mehek Masih (14), a Christian of Gujranwala, was kidnapped by a Muslim Mr. Muhammad Tayyab Butt on gunpoint on August 17, 2011. Butt along with accomplices abducted. Two Christians, Mr. Imran Masih and Mr. Mehboob Masih, tried to rescue the girl but the captor pointed the gun at them and threatened to shoot. "She is a Choori" the man shouted, at Mehek, using derogatory Punjab slang, to define a Christian. He also added that the Mehek will be purified "convert to Islam and become my mistress."

APMA tried to report the incident to the police but police did not want to open an investigation as is often the case at the expense of an influential Muslim personality.
Asia News

8. An Ahmadi converted to Islam along with his family in Chiniot.
Jinnah May 26, 2011

9. 10 members of an Ahmadi family accepted Islam in Pasrur

district Sialkot.

Jang November 10, 2011

10. Abdul Rauf: Rawalpindi

Mr. Abdul Rauf, an Ahmadi of Gojar Khan, Rawalpindi, received a letter threatening him with death if he did not change his religion. A few days later while returning home, two men on a motorbike intercepted Rauf and said to him "You are a Mirzai, stop your antics." On February 2, 2011 as he entered his house, a shot was fired that pierced the gate and hit the wall in front of him. Luckily, he was unhurt but lived in a constant danger and fear. He lodged a report with the police.

Ahmadi community

11. Muzaffar Ahmad: Quetta

Mr. Muzaffar Ahmad, an Ahmadi businessman, was threatened by some clerics who took him forcibly to their office and made him sign a statement on oath to deny Ahmadiyyat on June 22, 2011 in Quetta. "Your business will be set on fire and you will be killed if you maintain relations with Ahmadis or go to their place of worship", they threatened him.

Ahmadi community

12. Naeem Ahmad Nasir Hashmi: Okara

Mr. Naeem Ahmad Nasir Hashmi, an Ahmadi office-bearer, received serious threats to his life. On April 24, 2011 he received a message on his cell-phone: "Infidel, your end is at hand." A few minutes later he received another message: "Recite the creed of the Prophet or be ready to die."

Ahmadi community

Hate crimes

A Daily times' editorial said; 'Pamphlets calling to kill members of the Ahmadi community in the name of Islam are openly being distributed in Punjab. Not only do these pamphlets glorify the killing of innocent people but the addresses of many prominent Ahmadi businessmen, senior teachers and doctors who reside in Faisalabad were published. Despite the fact that there are laws against incitement to violence and murder, no action has so far been taken against the publishers of these pamphlets, i.e. the International Organization for Protection of Finality of Prophethood, and the All Pakistan Students Khatam-e-Nabuwat Federation.

The PML-N's Senator Pervaiz Rashid said he was not aware of these pamphlets but assured that the Punjab government will investigate and take action against the hate-mongers. The Ahmadi community in Pakistan has faced persecution at the hands of the state and bigots alike for decades. From being declared non-Muslims in 1974 during Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's rule to General Zia ul Haq's draconian

Ordinance XX issued in 1984, the Ahmadis have been threatened, harassed and killed while those who are responsible for these gruesome acts of incitement and violence go unpunished.

On May 28, 2010 two Ahmadi worship places were attacked and more than 80 people lost their lives. Even though a year has passed, we still do not know what happened to the investigations. It speaks volumes about the justice system of our country when we have yet to see justice being served for late Governor Punjab Salmaan Taseer's brutal murder.

Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah is alleged to have ties with the leaders of a banned organization. This does not augur well for the province if its own law minister is giving patronage to militant outfits. The PML-N government in Punjab must stop bigotry from spreading its tentacles all over the province. The Ahmadis are as much Pakistanis as anyone else and they must not be treated as pariahs. The state must ensure their safety and punish all those who are fuelling hatred in our midst. **Daily Times June 15, 2011**

5. Worst enemy

Daily Musawat reported Maulana Ilyas Chinioti saying that Ahmadi 'gang' was the worst enemy of Islam **Musawat July 25, 2011**

6. Working against Pakistan

"Ahmadis are part of a Jewish conspiracy against Islam and Pakistan and are responsible for sectarianism and terrorism in the country," claimed religious leaders at the conclusion of a three-day-long Khatm-e- Nabuwat conference in Chiniot Jhang district. In a "message" to the Ahmadis, the speakers said they should either "accept Islam" or their legal status as minorities in Pakistan and "obey" the constitution of Pakistan. On an ending note, the speakers vowed to "continue struggle against Ahmadis across the world."

The Express Tribune Sep.10, 2011

7. Inciting people to kill Ahmadis

On June 11, 2011 the All Pakistan Students Khatam-e-Nabuwat Federation handed out pamphlets in Faisalabad, inciting people to kill hundreds of members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, thus fulfilling their religious duty and cleansing the place of infidels. The pamphlets included a hit list with names and addresses of industrialists, teachers and doctors.

Ahmadiyya Times June 27, 2011

8. Hostile rallies in Rabwah

Rabwah has always been on the target of the sectarian organizations. They are at liberty to provoke 95% of the town's

population. They regularly hold conferences in Rabwah, take out processions through the main markets and make hate filled speeches, use provocative language against the Ahmadi community. Clerics from outside Rabwah participate in these conferences and disturb the peace of the city.

Ahmadi community

9. Tension in Nagar Parkar: Mithi (Sindh)

A computer institute owned by an Ahmadi provides training facilities to all-comers, and non-Ahmadi Muslims and non-Muslims avail of this facility. Mullas do not like this, so they planned anti-Ahmadi agitation.

On Friday, May 13 the mullas had the bazaar shut down and took out anti-Ahmadi protest rally after the Friday prayers. The procession headed for the Ahmadiyya center. They stopped at the centre for 15 20 minutes and used invectives against the founder of Ahmadiyyat. The crowd burnt effigies of two Ahmadis and dumped the burning waste in the Ahmadiyya compound. They called Ahmadis Kafir, (apostates); Wajib-ul-Qatl (must be put to death).

The participants demanded that the computer centre and the mission house should be closed down. The niche in the Ahmadiyya mosque should be demolished and the Kalima should be effaced. Ahmadis should be expelled from Nagar Parkar. They attempted to damage the mission house but the police stopped them.

Ahmadi community report

10. Wall chalking: Nankana Sahib

A wall-chalking against the founder of the Ahmadi community at Sangla Hill districts Nankana was found and on October, 2011 a complaint was made to police who took no action except wiping out the statements from the walls.

Ahmadi community

11. Ahmadis "Wajibul Qatl": Faisalabad

Pamphlets labelling members of the Ahmadi community "Wajibul Qatl" (liable to murder), and inciting people to attack followers of the faith, are being openly and widely circulated in Punjab's textile industry hub Faisalabad. **Express Tribune June 9, 2011**

Hate Speech

Head money on Taseer

Reported in Jang, Tehsil Nazim of Muzaffargarh Muhammad Abad Dogar was called to the police station to explain why he had announced a reward of Rs. 2 crore for anyone who would kill Governor Salmaan Taseer. Earlier, similar money was announced by

the clergy for the killing of Ms. Asiya Bibi the Christian victim of Blasphemy Law. When the supporters of the Nazim heard this, they came out on the roads to protest the police action. Friday Times Feb 07, 2011

No prayer for Taseer

Showing themselves to be more extreme than Deobandis, the clerics of Barelvi Ahle Sunnat were quoted in Jang as saying that no one should attend the funeral of Governor Salmaan Taseer, nor should any Muslim express any grief on his assassination. About 500 Ulema of the Barelvi sect issued the fatwa from Karachi.

Friday Times February 4-10, 2011

Hindu is our eternal enemy

Quoted in Nawa-e-Waqt chief editor and owner Majid Nizami stated that all students should be told that Hindus were the permanent (azli) enemy of Pakistan whose birth too should be explained in the same terms. He added that even brainwashing should be used to convince the children. He said it was wrong to be liberal when Hindu was prejudiced as that will make Pakistan lose its war.

Friday Times December 2-8, 2011

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Religious Freedom

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states:

Everyone has the rights for freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance. **Article 18**

Vanishing 'others'

Hindus are not the only targeted minority (in Baluchistan), on their way out though. Zoroastrians, almost negligible in the first place, no longer live in the province, said Tahir Hussain, Vice Chairperson for the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan's Balochistan chapter.

The community had its share of targeting. Faridoon Abadan, a former Provincial Minister for minorities and owner of Quetta Distillery Ltd, was kidnapped over 10 years ago and is yet to be recovered. His wife, Nilofer, was the first woman to be kidnapped in the province last February, but returned home after paying Rs. 30 million in ransom. The family is now moving out.

Express Tribune March 4, 2012

The targeting does not stop at religious minorities

After several high-profile targeted attacks, the Hazara community is quitting the province as well. "Around 16,000 people from the Hazara or Persian-speaking community left Quetta last year," Hussain said. Their plight gained national prominence when a ferry, carrying asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan, capsized off the coast of Indonesia. Around 55 young men from the Hazara community from Quetta were among those who drowned.

Express Tribune March 4, 2012

Shia's demand right to religious freedom

On July 14 the Pakistan Telecommunications Authority blocked the Pakshia website, which posted news, Twitter feeds and sent out SMS messages on sectarian violence and extrajudicial killings in the country, charging that it was posting "objectionable material."

Shia Muslims protested the action in Karachi, during which four protesters were injured during clashes with police. In a posting on their website, Pakshia said Shias have been targets for several extremist groups. "For many years, extremist groups and banned terrorist organizations like the Taliban, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, Sipah-e-Sahaba and others have targeted Shi'ite Muslims." (Shia Muslims account for 25 percent of Pakistan's more than 180 million population.

UCAN

Ahmadis not allowed Eid prayers

On 20 August 2012 Ahmadis in Rawalpindi were stopped from offering Eid prayers by the district authorities, as a result of some propaganda.

The spokesperson of Jama'at Ahmadiyya Pakistan Saleem ud Din said that "the government and local administration stopped Ahmadis from congregating for Eid prayers. For years Ahmadis used Ewan e Tawheed for regular prayers but now they have been stopped the local administration on the demands of miscreants. This left the local Ahmadis with no choice and no hope for a gathering fitting for an Eid and leaving them disheartened and marginalized.

Ahmadis that it is best if they offer Eid prayers at Ewan-e-Tauheed, the Bait-ul-Hamd, Murree Road, only has a capacity to accommodate 100 worshippers. "An estimated number of 2,000 Ahmadis were expected to congregate and offer Eid prayers, however, were unable to do so because of the sudden change of events triggered by influence of local powerful businessmen," added Saleem uddin.

However Sharjeel Mir, President of Traders Union Rawalpindi and a local businessman said, "We object to Ewan-e-Tauheed, fifteen years ago an Ahmadi bought a house and later on donated it to the Ahmadi community. Since then it has been used as a praying site despite the fact that NOC was not obtained from the district government as is required according to the law of land." Mir went on to add that, "In May of 2010, Ahmadis and their worshipping site were attacked in Lahore enticing people praying at Ewan-e-Tauheed to beef up security. They barricaded all the roads that led to their worshipping site. Even ambulances transporting patients to and from Holy Family Hospital were stopped and not given free passage."

Mir said that Ahmadis left them with no option but to report this abuse to the local authorities who then took action against them.

"According to the constitution, Ahmadis are not allowed to call their praying sites mosques and term their call of prayers as namaz. They do not follow the rules and policies which is why we take action against them. We believe in coexistence. In fact countless Christians live in Rawalpindi and we live in harmony, however, we will not have Ahmadis call themselves Muslims and go against the law. They should live like other minorities," added Mir.

Dawn August 22, 2012

Threat

Khatoon-e-Fatima School & Church: Islamabad

Khatoon-e-Fatima School & Church in Islamabad received a threatening letter on November, 14, 2012 through a regular mail by Farooq S/o Abdul Hameed, Sardar and Shabir, Group. In this letter extremist addressed the Principal of the school, saying that holding prayers service for Malaya had provoked them, and they need to close this school. The threat was reported to authorities and safety measures were adopted.

NCJP

Conversions

Parliamentary panel to probe forced conversions

The federal government constituted the committee with the purpose to review the situation of Hindu community and make recommendations for legislation, according to Senator Mr. Hemant Das of Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F). The committee is likely to table its draft recommendations when it meets next month, he revealed.

At the residence of Hindu Panchayat leader Mr. Jai Kumar Dhirani on September 23, 2012, Senator Mr. Hafiz Hamdullah and other JUI-F leaders met with the community's representatives and heard their concerns. According to Das, the government has selected 26 members from the Senate and National Assembly to work on the draft legislation. "The forced conversion issue is going to be the most important one followed by marriage laws," he revealed.

The manifestation of this growing concern of the community surfaced in the form of migrations to India. Hundreds of families reportedly left their centuries-old abodes in northern Sindh to settle in the neighboring country. Besides the forced conversions of Hindu girls, extortion and kidnapping of Hindu businessmen also inflamed sentiments.

"We are not opposed to changing one's religions," said Dhirani. "But the converts should be given enough time to understand their new religion and there should be a process of certifying a conversion." He suggested that a Hindu girl who is willing to convert to Islam should be properly oriented to the religion's teachings for a month or two before the formal conversion. Dr. Dilip Doulatni asked the Senator to form a fact-finding committee on the subject of forced Hindu conversions to ascertain the truth. "While complaints regarding coercion during conversion are played down, the use of force is still very obvious," Doulatni said.

However, the caretaker (Sajjada Nashin) of the Amrot Sharif shrine in Shikarpur, Syed Siraj Ahmed Shah Amroti, rejected Doultani's claim. Amroti, who is also a JUI-F leader, said that Hindu girls were in fact being provided security during the initial days of their conversion. "We don't allow a [Hindu] girl to recite the Kalima and become Muslim without repeatedly asking her for her conscious decision."

Piqued by the Supreme Court's judgment in Rinkle Kumari's case, the community is also demanding that while the courts hear these cases, their girls should be kept in a shelter house which is under the supervision of the minority group.

The community's representatives also lamented that the parliamentary committee has not made public its draft recommendations yet. Its three members, Senator Mr. Moula Buksh Chandio, Senator Mr. Hari Ram Kishori Lal and MNA Mr. Lal Chand Parwani, met the Hindu representatives in all parts of the province. The parliamentarians noted their concerns, complaints, demands and recommendations.

The committee gave its recommendations to President Asif Ali Zardari on September 4, 2012. However, Senator Das said although he have been in contact with Senator Kishori Lal but haven't received a copy of the findings." He revealed that these recommendations are likely to be tabled at the meeting of the 26-member committee. **Express Tribune September 24, 2012**

Hindus Community

1. Rinkle Kumari: Ghotki

Ms. Rinkle Kumari (17), a Hindu girl, was allegedly kidnapped, forced to convert and married to a Muslim Naveed Shah in Mirpur Mathelo, Ghotki district.

Her family claimed that Kumari was kidnapped from her home in Mirpur Mathelo by MNA (PPPP) Mr. Mian Abdul Haq (Mian Mithoo)'s men on the night of February 24, 2012. She was then taken to Bharchundi Sharif where Shah, a supporter of the politician, forced her to convert to Islam and married her, albeit without her consent.



Rinkle Kumari
Courtesy: Google Images

The local Hindus approached the police to lodge the First Information Report of her kidnapping against the Pirs of Bhurchandi Sharif. As the Pirs of Bhurchandi Sharif are supposedly the most powerful and influential in the district, the police facilitated them to produce the girl in court to get legal cover. Two days later, Rinkle was produced in a court at Ghotki, where she said that she converted to Islam out of her free will and that she loved Shah and decided to marry him. Hindu community was at the court where the supporters of the Pirs were seen engaged in aerial firing to celebrate Rinkle's conversion. It was alleged that the local politician and Pakistan People's Party Member National Assembly Mian Mitho brought armed men to harass them. The leaders of Hindus community said that Rinkle was forced to give the statement in court.

On February 27, when Rinkle became Faryal after recording her statement in the Ghotki court, she was brought inside the shrine amid aerial firing and distribution of sweets.

On April 16, the court in Karachi sent her to a shelter home until hearing on April 18, 2012 so that she could decide where she wanted to go. (The court was stormed by clerics and the court had to postpone its proceedings for lack of order, on resuming the court was still filled by 15-200 lawyers) On hearing, Rinkle opted to go with her 'husband'.

From Sindh High Court the case reached the Supreme Court of Pakistan after a so called suo moto action by the Chief Justice of Pakistan, however the Apex court also relied on statements, it did not bother to verify age and free intent of three Hindu women (Rinkel, Asha and Lata) which the Apex Court considered fit to hear together.

NCJP / Express Tribune

2. Dr. Lata Kumari: Jacobabad

Dr. Lata Kumari (29), a doctor in Karachi, allegedly was kidnapped and married after converting to Islam. **Dawn March 22, 2012**

3. Asha Kumari: Jacobabad

Ms. Asha Kumari (15) was allegedly kidnapped from a beauty parlour in Jacobabad on March 3, 2012. She claimed to embrace Islam and married a Muslim man of her own free will. "She was kidnapped from a beauty parlour and for more than forty days, there was no news about her whereabouts," said Asha's uncle, Mr. Sundar Das, in bafflement. "On April 13, she suddenly turns up at the Supreme Court and says that she chose to change her religion. What is this?"

At a protest held at the press club on Sunday, Das said that Asha's family refuses to believe her statement at the court (which they believed was coerced). **Express Tribune April 16, 2012**

4. Manisha Kumari: Jacobabad

Ms. Manisha Kumari (14) was kidnapped from Jacobabad and forced to convert to Islam and married to a Muslim Ghulam Murtaza on August 7, 2012. **Express Tribune August 10, 2012**

Christian Community

1. Seema Bibi, escape from landlord

Ms. Seema Bibi, a Christian woman, was kidnapped along with her four children after her husband couldn't repay a loan to a landlord. The husband was told his wife converted to Islam and wouldn't be coming home. Within hours, Seema Bibi escaped, fled the village and went underground with her husband and children.

Dawn, March 28, 2012

2. Saima: Bahawalpur

Ms. Saima Masih (16), resident of Tehsil Yazman Mandi, Bahawalpur, was abducted, raped and forcibly converted to Islam by one of the influential Muslim Landlord Muhammad Javed.

On refusal of a marriage proposal by Javed, Saima was abducted on March 9, 2012 and was taken to Gujrat where Muhammad Javed and Muhammad Sardar (Uncle of Muhammad Javed) raped her.

Saima's father Gulzar filed an application against Javed and his family in the local police station, but police took no action against the culprits. After knowing the seriousness of the situation on March 15, 2012, Muhammad Javed forcibly converted her to Islam, by taking her signature and thumb impression on a paper. On 21

March, he again took the signature of Saima Masih on the marriage certificate.

On September 12, 2012 Saima escaped from their custody. She along with her parents went to police station but no action was taken against the culprits.

With the help of World Vision in Progress (WVIP), her parents filed a petition in the High Court for registering an FIR against the culprits. Saima and her family received threats from Muhammad Javed and other influential political persons to withdraw her case otherwise they will make her life hell. Due to threats Saima and her family went into hiding. **WVIP**

3. Sickness saved Shafila Arfaqshad: Faisalabad

On May 4, 2012, a Christian girl Shafila Arfaqshad (14) resident of Ali Town Sargodha Road Faisalabad was kidnapped by her converted Muslim maternal uncle Zulfiqar (who became Muslim some years ago) from her house in order to marry her off with his son Kashif.

Zulfiqar kidnapped Shafila as she opened the door on a knock. On searching, Zulfiqar admitted that Shafila was with him and she will return Shafila the next day. He refused to send her back next day claiming that had converted her to Islam and married his son on May 7, 2012.

Arfaqshad, her father approached the police but no action was taken by the police. During the police investigations, it became clear Shafila as a minor according to local municipal records yet the Sub Inspector Mr. Mahar Riaz plotted with the accused and recorded statement of Shafila before Area Magistrate, stating that, "I am mature and take any decision and I embraced Islam with my own will without any fear."

The family approached City Police Officer (CPO) but again the police did not make an attempt to recover her. Finally, one day women when the abductor /uncle/ converter discovered that Shafila was suffering from acute asthma, her became scared and let her go to her parents. Her family started proceedings against the culprit afresh and is actively pursuing the case. **NCJP**

4. Ruth Gill Masih: Lahore

Ms. Ruth Gill Masih (38) D/o Inayat Gill, a Christian of Model Town Lahore, was converted to Islam at Jamia Naeemia Lahore. She was given an Islamic name, Nausheen Bibi.

Nawa-e-Waqt, June 11, 2012

5. Muzamal Arif: Kasur

Ms. Muzamal Arif was abducted by some Muslim men while she was returning home from college in Chunian, Kasur district. She was raped and forcibly converted to Islam.

Muzamal was married to Muhammad Nadeem. Her family reported the incident to the police station in Chunian, but police have not conducted any investigation, instead they presented a report of the court attesting how the girl is now a Muslim and legally married.

Agenzia Fides July 17, 2012

6. Azra Bibi: Lahore

Ms. Azra Bibi (45) along with her six children converted to Islam at Sunni-Barelvi madrassa, Lahore in the second week of February, 2011 in the witness of Mr. Chaudhry Muhammad Islam. **TNS**

7. Shabana: Okara

Shabana (16) D/o Ghulam Masih, resident of 55/2-L Okara district, was abducted by a converted Muslim Mr. Anwar Boota (45) (Islamic name Muhammad Umar) along with his accomplices.

Muhammad Umar forcibly took thumb impression of Shabana on a paper and raped her. After two months, she escaped from the custody of Umar and reached her parental home. On July 4, 2012 an FIR bearing No.627/12 was registered against Muhammad Umar in Okara.

Ghulam and Shabana along with hundreds of villagers reached the police station at Okara, the Investigation officer Haji Abdul Ghafoor refused to take her statement. Ghafoor also pressurized Shabana and her father to favor the accused. He harassed Ghulam and her daughter that if they did not change their statement then he will involve his father in criminal case as well register a blasphemy case against Shabana.

Muhammad Umar got bail before arrest with the help of a Muslim cleric Dr. Mian Abdul Sami Haqqani and local police after providing the fake document of Shabana Masih that she embraced Islam on July 2, 2012. Haqqani submitted his statement before the session Judge that Shabana accepted Islam and now married with Muhammad Umar. **WVIP**

8. Shumila: Faisalabad

Shumaila Bibi (24), a Christian factory worker, resident of Nishatabad, Faisalabad, was kidnapped by a Muslim Muhammad Javed Iqbal (26) on September 24, 2012 while she was returning home after her night duty at Millat Textile Mills, located near her home. She was forcibly converted to Islam.

Shumila said that when she came out of the factory gate, Iqbal along with his relatives Muhammad Rehan and Muhammad Zafar kidnapped her on gunpoint despite she resisted and cried for help. Then they took her to their residence in Ghulam Muhammadabad, Faisalabad.

Next day, Iqbal with his relatives took her at the office of Muhammad Tanveer Aslam, a lawyer, where they got her sign on marriage paper and an affidavit stating that she converted to Islam.

For days, she was sexually abused. She made to record a statement to police saying that she converted and married Muhammad Javed out of her will. She also compelled to learn Quran and Islamic teachings. She used to spend two hours in a private Madrassa run by a female teacher near Javed's house.

On October 5, Shumaila requested the Quran teacher, Ms. Parveen Bibi to let her go earlier and managed to escape. From Madrassa she reached her parent's home and told them about her ordeal.

On the same night, police raided her parent's home on the complaint of Iqbal for kidnapping his converted wife but Shumaila was already sent to a safe place.

Iqbal filed an FIR under section 365 of PPC against Shumaila's father Mansha Masih (68) and brother in law Shareef Masih charging them of kidnapping his wife in Ghulam Muhammadabad police station. On the other hand, Mansha filed a writ petition against Iqbal for harassment and kidnapping her daughter.

Shumaila told NCJP that she wanted to live with her parents and remained a Christian. She said Iqbal helped her to find a job in MTM after the request of her Muslim co-worker Ms. Surriaya Bibi, Iqbal visited our home occasionally to meet my elder brother on friendly terms. 'I used to call him a brother but he offered me to be a friend. I refused and discouraged his proposal. Due to refusal, he ruined my life.'

On the intervention of political and social figures, there has been reconciled the issue and the marriage performed under Muhammadan law, is also dissolved.

NCJP

9. Kinza Peter: Gujranwala

Ms. Kinza (19) D/o Peter Masih was kidnapped by a Muslim Mr. Muhammad Akmal (30) and converted to Islam in Lahore on February 16, 2012. Akmal sent a conversion and marriage certificate at her house. With the help of NCJP, Peter filed a writ in the court. On legal notice by the court to the police, she was returned to her family on March 29, 2012. **NCJP**

10. Ishaq Masih: Sialkot

Mr. Ishaq Masih, resident of Johada, Pasroor, Sialkot district embraced Islam and changed his name as Muhammad Shahzad. **Nawa-e-Waqt June 11, 2012**

11. Aamir and family: Kasur

A Christian couple, Mr. Aamir and his wife Nazia converted to Islam with their four children Qasim, Kausar, Billa and Muskan in Kasur. **Khabrain February 10, 2012**

12. Shazia: Rawalpindi

Shazia Akhtar, a Christian girl from Taxila, Rawalpindi was shocked to see her conversion, marriage certificate and husband that she never saw before.

The story begins when Shazia was trapped in the plot of getting job abroad by a person named Chaudhary Abdul Qayyum in Taxila. Qayyum obtained an amount of Rs. One Lakh and Eighty thousands from Shazia and promised to return her, if she fails to obtain the visa.

During the process of documentation, Abdul Qayyum brought Shazia to the National Identity Card office, where she happened to trace the plan and saw the forged documentations that include her conversion to Islam, marriage certificate showing Abdul Qayyum her husband and CNIC form being submitted as wife of Qayyum (Annex 1a, 1b and 1c).

Shazia filed an application at Police Station Taxila (Annex 2), later submitted an application at Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) (Annex 3) Islamabad against Abdul Qayyum. Police recorded the statement of Qayyum that the marriage was willful and conversion without coercion however they (Qayyum and Shazia) had fight on some issue and left house carrying money and jewelry.

Shazia's mother filed the suit in the family court for cancellation of marriage, that never occurred and judgment was given in the favor of the plaintiff compensating the amount from the defendant that was received by fraud. **NCJP**

13. Conversion of Hindu eulogized in live show during Ramazan

Mr. Sunil (20) a Hindu working as Office Boy Ansar Burney Welfare Trust informed a packed studio audience during a prime-time Ramazan talk-show on private channel ARY by telephone that he changed his religion on a Muslim clerics guidance. The proud host Ms. Maya Khan was happy, the people in the show congratulated and shouted out suggestions for his new Muslim name before he was renamed Mohammad Abdullah; the consensus choice. Abdullah said,

"I have accepted Islam by my own will and my family has no objection".

Conversion to Islam live on television sparked criticism by religious minorities in the country. "The joy with which the conversion was greeted and the congratulations that followed sent a clear signal that other religions don't enjoy the same status in Pakistan as Islam does," wrote Dawn, Pakistan's oldest English newspaper. "In a country where minorities are already treated as second-class citizens in many ways, this served to marginalize them even further," it said.

It was a second controversy for chat show host Ms. Maya Khan, who was this year sacked by a channel after chasing couples in a public park, accusing them of behaving immorally.

Ramesh Kumar, a leader of the Pakistan Hindu Council, told that the program would encourage intolerance. "We are already intimidated. The government pays little heed to the kidnapping of Hindus and forced faith conversion of our girls. Please don't do things that make us more alienated," he told.

Talat Hussain, who hosts a political show on private television channel Dawn News, also warned against turning religion into mass entertainment. "Think about how Muslims would feel when Buddhists in Burma show similarly a Muslim being converted in a live TV show," he told. **The Express Tribune July 27, 2012**

Physical Violence

1. Pastor 'You cannot quote from the Quran'

A cleric in Sialkot district disrupted a Saturday prayer, abused the Pastor and threatened to register a blasphemy FIR against the Pastor for drawing upon verses from the Quran during his sermon.

Pastor George was invited by Data Zedka village Christians to give a sermon at the local church.

According to Arif Hameed, a school teacher who arranged the pastor's visit, Qari Muhammad Fazal disrupted the mass around 11 pm abusing the pastor and threatening to kill him. Fazal objected to the Pastor reading Quranic verses during his sermon. "He [Fazal] tried to get through to the Pastor but the congregants helped him escape," said Hameed.

Fazal called the police to the Church but by the time the police reached, the Pastor had fled. Police officials were able to "persuade the Qari" to go home by assuring him that action will be taken against the Pastor.

The next morning local Christians, said the school teacher, apologised to Fazal who is still insisting that the Pastor "confess to his crime", and publicly apologise for quoting the Quran. Fazal, when contacted, told that Pastor George had "tried to justify the Christian point of view by giving Quranic references." He said his "blood started boiling" when he heard the Pastor quoting from the Quran. "Yes, I abused them. I would have killed the pastor right there and but I could not arrange for a weapon," he said. (Names are changed to protect the identity of parties involved).

The Express Tribune, May 24th, 2012

2. Fired at for attending Sunday Prayer

On September 23, 2012, two Christian youth were beaten and fired at by some Muslim landowners; both were badly injured and taken to the Civil Hospital for medical treatment.

The Christian community of Chak 102, Khurrianwala, Faisalabad is by and large laborers, Sabir Masih, a Christian youth tried to stop two Muslim brothers Muhammad Kashif and Muhammad Danish, who were standing near the church's door and were teasing the Christian women, coming for Sunday church service. Muhammad Kashif reportedly tried to touch a Christian woman; the woman was sister-in-law to Sabir Masih.

On this issue, Muhammad Kashif quarreled with Sabar Masih and slapper her. However local people intervened and matter was resolved. After a while, Muhammad Kashif came back along with his brother Muhammad Danish armed with a gun. They beat up Sabir Masih and also Ameen Masih as he intervened to resolve the matter. Muhammad Kashif opened fire at Sabir Masih, he got two bullets, one in his left leg and one in his back and Ameen Masih also got two

bullets one in leg and other in stomach.

Sabir Masih and Ameen Masih were hospitalized for medical treatment however when both came home on October 3, Muhammad Kashif and Muhammad Danish along with some accomplices again attacked them. They beat Sabir and Ameen mercilessly and humiliated the women. The culprits threatened Christian families of dire consequences if they approach police for legal assistance.

An FIR was registered against culprits in Khurrianwala Police Station with the help of a Christian social worker but all accused were at large till the report. **NCJP**

Attacks on Places of Worship

Attack on St. Paul's Church: Mardan

On September 21, 2012 a mob of several hundred Muslims men attacked the Church compound in Mardan City, 48 kilometer from the provincial capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The mob broke through the main gate of the Church compound, attacked and set on fire St. Paul's Sarhadi Church, St. Paul's high school, the library, a computer laboratory and houses of four clergymen. The mob also damaged and set alight the movable property including a car and three motorcycles. Mr. Zeeshan Chand (17), son of Rev. Chand, was beaten by the mob. Zeeshan had to be hospitalized in Mardan.

Attackers brought kerosene oil, guns and sculls. They damaged the door, windows and stoned the Church. The mob desecrated the Alter, tore the copies of Bibles, prayer books and later put everything on fire, the source said. **NCJP**

President condemns attack on Mardan Church

President Asif Ali Zardari condemned and deplored the attack and the subsequent burning of a church in Mardan by a mob. The President called upon the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government to take all appropriate measures for protecting the places of worship of Christians and other minorities and to address their grievances and take measures to avoid such incidents in the future.

Probe committee: Meanwhile, Interior Minister Rehman Malik formed a committee headed by the KP inspector general of police to probe the attack on the church.

Pakistan Today September 25, 2012

Attack on Hindu community: Karachi

An infuriated mob of 150 carrying rocks and sticks, attacked on Hindu Colony, Adam Goth located in the Gulshan-e-Maymar, Karachi. Chanting slogan of 'Allah-O-Akbar (God is great)' entered in the colony. They vandalized Hindu temple devoted to Shri Krishana Bhagwan, smashed statues of gods to the ground and then moved onto ripping the holy books. They also beat up the temple's caretaker.

The rioters stole valuables and gold ornaments from the statues, entered nearby houses, snatching gold earrings and Mangal Sutars from newly married MS. Lakshmi and others women. Hurling stones at houses, they also injured a woman who was washing clothes. A boy Mr. Govinda and a man Mr. Tara Singh was also injured during the attack.

An FIR under section 295-A, 147, 148, 337 A1, 452, 380, and 427 of PPC was registered against the cleric and eight other protestors, on Sept. 23, 2012.

DAWN / The Nation

Attacks on Christian Hospital: Hyderabad

Two unidentified persons attacked and opened fires on St. Francis Xavier's Catholic Cathedral in Hyderabad on Sunday, September 16, 2012.

As soon as Mother Christina FCJ, a Maltese nun and in-charge of Lady Gram Hospital, Hyderabad reached at the gate of the Cathedral, unidentified men on motorbikes opened fire on the Church. Her driver Mr. Aamir Ashiq, 30, received two bullets in his legs, however Mother Christina was unhurt. He was under medical treatment till report.

The motor cyclists were carrying green flags and wore green headbands, according to Mr. Ashiq who refused to lodge an FIR because of fear.

In another similar shooting on St. Elizabeth Hospital's gate in Hyderabad on September 18, 2012 the assailants reportedly warned, 'We will teach a lesson to the Christians', according to a security guard of the hospital at the time of the attack. St. Elizabeth Hospital is run by the Catholic Church in Hyderabad.

The Church leadership closed down the Church-based institutions, schools and colleges in protest against these attacks for three days urging the authorities to provide security and protection to the Christians and religious minorities in the country. However the media remained totally silent about these attacks.

NCJP

Attack on San Franciscans Church: Karachi

The Catholic Church of St. Francis Karachi was attacked by a mob of about 200 Islamic radicals that devastated the yard, but did not manage to break through the front door. The two Franciscan monks who live there, Fr. Victor Mohan and Fr. Albert Jamil, OFM, and the sisters who work there "are afraid, they fear more attacks," they tell Fides. The episode, which has aroused indignation and concern throughout the Catholic community in Karachi, took place on October 12.

A Franciscan priest told Fides: "Fr. Victor had just finished celebrating a wedding, when he heard noises and shouting from the compound of the church. Immediately all the faithful, women and children were sent to the parish house. The radicals, shouting against the Christians, broke into the building and started devastating everything: cars, bikes, vases of flowers. They broke an aedicule and took the statue of the Madonna. They tried to force the door of the church, throwing stones at the church and destroying the windows "The acts of vandalism continued for an hour, then the police arrived, the crowd dispersed. According to Fides sources, the attack can still be a reaction to the blasphemous film on Mohammed or otherwise related to the issue of blasphemy.

In the days following the Catholic Church in Karachi organized a public demonstration of protest, led by the Archbishop of Karachi, Mgr. Joseph Coutts, with the participation of hundreds of priests, nuns, lay people, members of Justice and Peace Commission and of human rights activists. The Assembly, gathered in a peaceful manner, prayed for peace and respect for all religions.

Agenzia Fides

Attack on Philadelphia Pentecostal Church: Karachi

Philadelphia Pentecostal Church was attacked in Essa Nagri, Karachi on October 18, 2012 by armed men. They vandalized Church and fled with alms offerings.

Some men broke into the church, during a power outage, from a graveyard situated next to it, "The church was closed at that time. The men broke the windows, threw the Bibles on the floor" said Rev Cornelius, the pastor of the church.

The Express Tribune October 20, 2012

Attacks on Christian community: Karachi

Located on the University Road, Essanagri (literal meaning; the settlement of Christ or Christians) in Karachi city, houses around 50,000 inhabitants, the settlement of Essanagri started in the

1960s by the Christian menial laborers arriving from Punjab in search of lively hood. According to Ex-MPA Michael Javed, a lease had been secured by the Essanagri Housing Society. This populace of somewhat slum area faces many problems like; low literacy, poverty and drug usage. However the most acute issue these days is violence and crime, widely believed to motivate by land grabbing and fueled by criminals operating on the ethnic lines.

With the phenomenon of encroachments by land mafia did not affect Essanagri until recently but ethnic politics coming into play along with criminal element joining the business, resulted in several attacks on Essanagri and loss of life as Christians in the locality try to resist the move. Elements having political backing and parties i.e. MQM, ANP, PPP loyalists have shown no interest in preventing the onslaught that has continued for some months now.

Pathan groups living next to Essanagri, and owning general stores, display arms, threaten and beat Christians, even harass women sometimes. Five persons have been killed by unknown criminal in August September this year. (For more info. see chapter social discrimination).

Desecrated the statute of Mother Mary

On November 30, 2012 Sabar Shah (26), a Muslim man of Chak Jhumra, district of Faisalabad desecrated the statue of Mother Mary by pelting stones in the Saint Pius Catholic Church, Chak Jhumra. On the same day FIR was registered against the culprit under section 295 PPC on the complaint of Fr Abid Tanveer, the parish priest. He and local clergymen appealed to the community to remain calm, to avoid any conflict. Police arrested the culprit on December 3, 2012 and investigation was in process. During interrogation the culprit has confessed that he was guilty.

NCJP

Abduction/Kidnapping

Abductions spark exodus of Hindus

Over 50 members of the Hindu community across Balochistan have been kidnapped in the last four years, compared to seven instances of kidnapping during former president Pervez Musharraf nine years, said Basant Lal Gulshan, the human rights and minorities affairs minister for Balochistan.

"Among those are two assistants from my own pharmacy, abducted two days ago," the minister said.

The alarming rise in kidnapping of Hindus across the province was confirmed by Balochistan Chief Secretary Ahmed Baksh Lehri while speaking to The Express Tribune.

Out of a total of 72 people kidnapped in the past few months, 24 were Hindus, Lehri said. Of them, 21 have been either released or recovered through the efforts of the community itself, he added.

The chief secretary admitted that the incidence of kidnapping has increased under the present government, compared to the Musharraf era.

Over the edge

Why this particular community though? Because it is perceived to be financially well-off but weak, said Gulshan. Settled Hindus are mostly traders and businessmen, and the community comprises two-thirds of the province's total minorities' population of 300,000, he said.

Most of them live in Baloch-settled districts of Sibi, Nasirabad, and Bhag and Dhadar in Bolan district, added Lehri. He put the total community's number at 45,000 though.

Most of the kidnappings, however, take place in Kalat which is home to a major Hindu temple dedicated to goddess Kali, said the chief secretary.

Those abducted are then taken to neighboring Khuzdar, a tribal district bordering Sindh, which has limited police presence, he said. The district has Levies force but they are too ill-equipped to confront kidnapers, he added.

Contrary to popular perception, the abductors are not separatists, the chief secretary maintained. These are common criminals, mostly unemployed men, who demand a high ransom for the Hindus, he added.

The constant targeting has pushed the community, quite literally, over the edge. Around 50 Hindu families have moved from Quetta to Karachi in the last two months, said Gulshan, adding that more than 150 families across the province have moved out in the last few years. Most of them went to India on a visit visa, but have not returned, he added.

The exodus may still be reversible. Most have left their business behind under caretakers or managers, and not sold them off, Gulshan said.

Victor Samuel: Toba Tek Singh

On July 7, 2012, eight unknown persons kidnapped Pastor Victor Samuel from his Grace Bible Church's office, Christian Colony Toba Tek Singh. They took him away from Toba Tek Singh to some undisclosed location.

Four-men were allegedly wearing police uniforms, arrived in police van and showed search warrants issued by Lahore judicial magistrate, Mr. Mian Shahid Ameen Joya. They told Pastor Victor that his American ex-wife April filed an application against him in R.A. Bazar Police Station, Lahore, that he was not giving some precious things back to her.

The police asked about Victor's American ex-wife and also inspected various files in his laptop, confiscating the machine along with some documents and his mobile phone. Then they asked Victor and his brother Sikander Samuel to accompany them to the district police office for further inquiry. But on the way to police office they dropped Sikander Samuel near Gojra bypass and took Victor with them to an undisclosed location.

After this incident, the family of Pastor Victor immediately registered an FIR under section 365 of PPC in city police station of Toba Tek Singh but police failed to find Pastor Victor. When District Police Officer of Toba Tek Singh, Ahsan Raza, contacted Ms. April and asked about the incident then she denied and rejected the allegation that she filed an application against Pastor Victor and told that she was living with her husband happily and she had no personal grudge against Pastor.

On July 11, Mr. Sikandar Samuel (pastor's brother) told NCJP, "My brother Victor married in 2007 with an American girl, her name is April, they lived together for three years, after three years April went back to America and then returned to Pakistan after one year. Then she divorced Pastor Victor and got married, and now she is living in Sahiwal, a city in Punjab. Victor and April separation was done peacefully and they have no any kind of enmity between them, a little daughter of Victor and April is also living with her mother in Sahiwal." He further told, "The whole community of the town is shocked at this incident and demand urgent return safely of Victor."
NCJP

Abduction and murder

Nabeela: Gujranwala

Ms. Nabeela w/o Justin (35), a Christian mother of three, was abducted by three Muslims and murdered after sexually abused on July 16, 2012.

Nabeela, residential of village Machikay, Gujranwala, was working as midwife at Al-Khidmat Hospital, Ferozewala Gujranwala. After hospital hours, she had also been attending patients for treatment at her house. Therefore, she was asked to refer the patients to Ishtiaq Memorial hospital, by Mr. Muhammad Anwar. But she rejected his proposal.

On the same day, her husband filed a complaint to the local police who found the dead body on the very next day, 20-kilometer away from the village. Police registered an FIR # 297/12 against unknown persons.

Police held on suspicion Mr. Patras Masih who used to work at the house of Anwar. Masih confessed the murder before the police and also revealed three other accomplices Mr. Muhammad Anwar, Mr. Amir Iqbal, and Mr. Muhammad Asif. Police conducted a raid to arrest them but they escaped. However, police did not arrest the offenders as they were all influential people. Upon this, kin of Nabeela held a protest in front of the City Police Office (CPO).

According to her husband, police called the accused to the police station and treated them like a guest. An interrogation was conducted by Mr. Tahir Mehmood, Naeem Mr. Butt (SHO) and Mr. Waseem Dar (DCO) have been exempted them for heavy amount. Justin objected that he had also provided phone-records to the police as evidence but the police did not continue to investigate the case. He stated that the medical report was also changed according to the will of the culprits while there was found a torture-mark of trap around her neck and were wounds on her face.

Police laid down the case on Patras Masih and sent him only to prison. The accused terrorized Justin to withdraw your appeal against them or reconcile and if not, you will also be murder.

The plaintiff also pleaded for Mr. Mian Shahbaz Sharif (Chief Minister of Punjab). But no legal action was taken against the culprits. Now, he has moved to his sister's house at Saleem Colony, Gujranwala due to life threats.

NCJP

Land Grabbing/Eviction

1. Demolition of Sri Rama Pirnaval Temple

Sri Rama Pirnaval Mandir located in Doli Khata, near Holy Family Hospital in Karachi, was attacked on December 1, 2012 around 10.30 a.m. About 40 to 50 armed persons belonging to some land mafia reportedly, entered the Temple compound accompanied with Police and Rangers. They harassed the peoples in the compound. According to the local the people they desecrated statues in the Temple, the police also took away the statue of Shri Krishna to police station (Gulzar Hijri Soldier Bazar). The local Hindu community tried to stop them but police and rangers helped the land mafia people. They also took away the religious objects, gold jewelry and other valuables.

The assailants also demolished the adjacent houses of Hindu community, who had been living there for more than 100 years. According to Mr. Lukshman the residence of that area this Temple is more than 75 years old.

NCJP

2. New converted Muslim man grabs her wife's home for not embracing Islam

"As I refused to convert to Islam, my newly converted Muslim husband locked my home for not following his orders, I cannot leave Christianity, I want to live my Christian faith", says Hanifa Bibi, wife of newly converted man.

Hanifa Bibi (37), a poor Christian women and mother of two, of Chak 86 G.B., Gurala Dajkot, District Faisalabad, was very shocked and depressed when her ex-husband, Muhammad Sarwar (formerly Sarwar Masih) son of Khushi Masih, embraced Islam on 10 March 2012. Muhammad Sarwar filed an application under section 22/A, 22/B, PPC against Hanifa Bibi for illegal possession of his home. Some of the Muslims also helped him and threatened Hanifa with dire consequences. According to reports Muhammad Sarwar had love affair with a Muslim woman, Nasreen Bibi, of the same village.

In the later development, the petition against Hanifa Bibi filed by Muhammad Sarwar was dismissed, and Hanifa Bibi sued Muhammad Sarwar for compensation and separation in civil court of Faisalabad.

NCJP

Hate Speech

1. Crush the Qadianis!

World famous leader of Muslims Pir Azharul Hassan Gilani told

newspaper Jinnah that the 'guru' of the Qadianis had toured America and got a lot of support there which proved that he was busy concocting conspiracies against Pakistan and the world of Islam. He said he would fight the Qadianis on every front.

Friday Times, August 17-23, 2012

2. Gojra village

Gojra sub-district though traditionally accommodative of religious and sectarian diversity saw violence in the name of religious and under the pretext of blasphemy in August 2009. The local Muslim families of Chak 179, Gojra reacted sharply when Babar Masih a 28 years old Christian man eloped with Ms. Nabeela a Muslim girl, on December 27, 2011. Beside the elopement of Nabeela allegation, they lodged fabricated case against three daughters and three sons in law of Sharif Masih. The complainant, Muhammad Aslam blamed them for kidnapping another woman Ms. Fouzia who disappeared from the village two years ago.

On the information of local villagers, the couple was caught by police after a month and an FIR was registered against Babar Masih. Nameel's family had six members of Sharif's family alleged for kidnapping her and detaining her at unknown place.

NCJP took up the case whereby Ms. Najia and Ms. Nusrat were released on bail from Lahore High Court on September 13, 2012. Another accused woman, Mst. Bushra was also released on bail from Session's court Gojra. Whereas the male accused are still in jail, efforts are underway to have the innocent released. Besides legal aid NCJP played a role in cooling the sentiments and involving the notables and local police to maintain peace.

NCJP

3. Unrest in LDA Quarters Lahore:

On August 29, 2012 around 8:00 p.m., Ahmad Ali Bhatti a local Muslim with criminal and fanatic background at Shah Jamal Colony, LDA quarters Lahore with 10-12 unidentified armed men abused the local Christians, invited them for conversion to Islam while doing Ariel firing and warned for dire consequences from him and God if they will not do it. Christians got terrified after this threat.

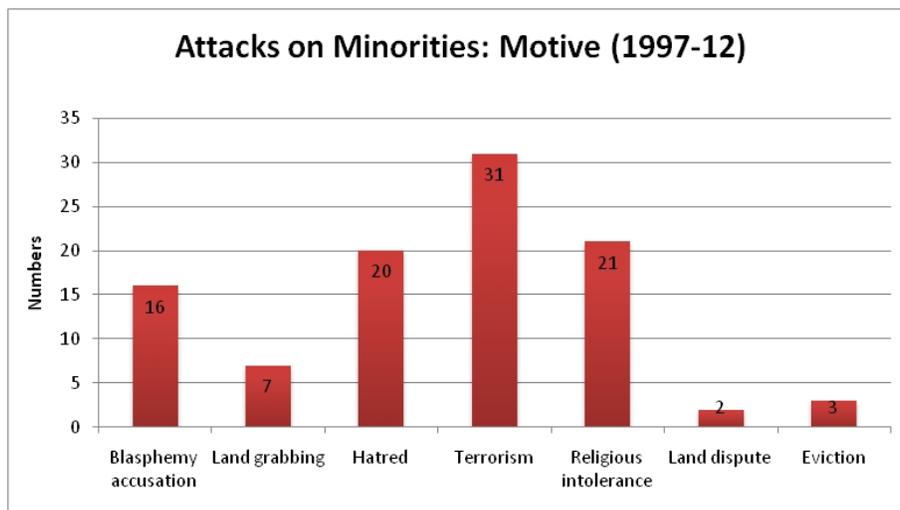
On the next morning, Ahmad Ali Bhatti got instigated after hearing Christian songs played at the barber's shop of a local Christian Asif Masih and un-plugged the cable from his TV. He also asked Asif to close his shop, on refusal he, along with his fellows, beat him and broke his window panes. Asif Masih had to leave the shop.

Mr. Joseph Ghouri, a local social worker along with other Christians

registered a complaint against Ahmad Ali Bhatti. After that Bhatti started threatening Joseph Ghouri and he had to leave the area with his family. However Mr. Ghouri brought the whole incident into the notice of Superintendent of Police Lahore Cantt., and local police officials raided but Ahmad Ali Bhatti CCJP intervened into the matter, coordinated with the local religious leaders, local representatives of political parties and social workers to manage the situation from becoming a larger religious tension in the future. The culprit was not arrested due to his relations and influence with political parties. However the CCJP intervention saved the situation from escalating further. **NCJP**

Note: The editor has picked 100 reported attacks on minorities to analyze trends in type and motive; however this is not an exhaustive data.

Graphs Presentation of Data



Attacks on Minorities: Kind (1997-12)

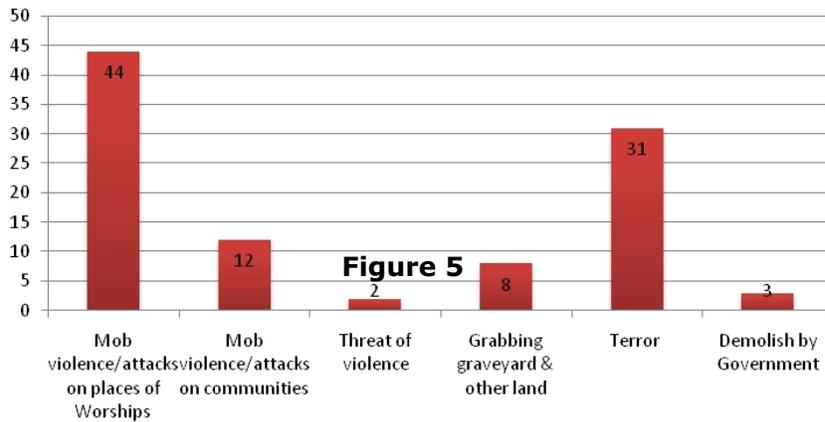
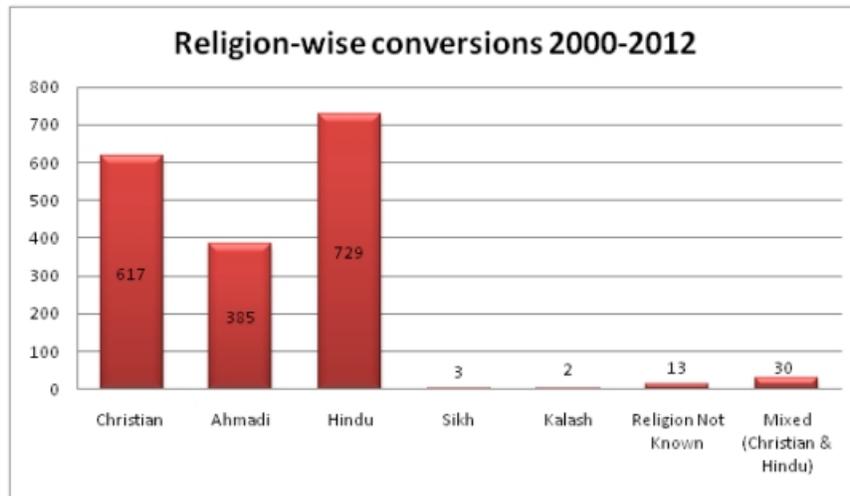


Figure 5



Note: The above graph is data of reported case of conversions mainly from four daily newspapers minorities to see the trends which can be used to make further assessment though is not an exhaustive data.

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Blasphemy Laws

Assassinations of Governor Salmaan Taseer and Minister Shahbaz Bhatti for sympathizing with Aasia Bibi and raising voice against misusing the blasphemy law, made 2011 a dark year for the religious minority of Pakistan. The efforts by political forces (government) to alleviate their sufferings through enhancing political participation of the minorities did not change the state of fear and vulnerability for minorities vis-à-vis physical security, social activity and cultural vitality. Economically speaking, the blasphemy laws had extremely adverse effect on minorities, concerning their economic interests and opportunities. While victims suffered losses due to litigations and imprisonment that often span over several years, a number of people ended up forgoing jobs, promotions, and properties to avoid or settle disputes that might lead to a false 'allegation'.

The number of blasphemy accusations in the year 2012 raised (113) as compared to 2011 (79) however because of one case against 72 Shia mourners in Multan during Muharram. There were 56 Muslim, 15 Christian and 5 Ahmadi victims in 2011, whereas 94 Muslims, 12 Christians and 5 Ahmadis were accused under the blasphemy provisions of the Pakistan Penal Code during 2012. The increase was mainly about the Muslim accused, especially belonging to Shia sect. Assessment of cases against Ahmadi community is difficult because most cases / accusations against Ahmadis have an element of religious hatred, or insult that members of majority community bring against them. Moreover there was an upsurge in targeted killing of Ahmadis. The notion of blasphemy and victim's vulnerability to murder are historically synonymous unfortunately, therefore difficult to differentiate in data.

There is no let up in factors and circumstances fueling the abuse or use of blasphemy laws. Among the cases during these two years, at least 14 or 11 % accused were suffering from or made a plea about their mental disorder. 8 (about 8 %) persons were charged on account of text messages that were reportedly received from their cell phone, something falling in the area of technological abuse and cybercrimes. At least 4 cases involving hundreds of accused had sectarian underpinnings whereas 3 cases were registered by family members owing to disputes between husband and wife, son and father.

Use and abuse of blasphemy laws still remained a Punjab phenomenon. Among 1254 known victims till December 2012, the hefty 923 or 73.6 % were situated in Punjab that is some 24% more than Punjab's share of population in the country. The struggle and demand for changes in the law no doubt must have created some awareness. The Provincial and Federal governments took some step in preventing the law from being misused. The Federal government and Islamabad High Court almost set a precedent in Rimsha Masih case. A minor girl, with mental issues, illiterate, situated in Islamabad city, Rimsha received unparalleled sympathy on one hand and a technical clearance when her accuser was found involved in tampering with evidence of burning of Quranic text.

Rimsha was also lucky in the sense that the presiding Judge of Islamabad High Court Justice Iqbal Hameed uddin had had the advantage of presiding over the Judicial Inquiry on the Gojra incident in 2010. He had given 10 recommendations in his 254 pages report including bringing legal, administrative and procedural safeguards against abuse of the blasphemy laws.

1. National discourse on blasphemy issue

Blasphemy allegations questioned

The small, sleepy and largely unknown town of Havelian has made its way into the news these days due to the alleged incident of blasphemy that has stirred the town's social fabric and created a rift between the Muslims and Christians settled in the area. From what has surfaced in news reports, it has been ascertained that a 13-year-old Christian girl belonging to the eighth grade erroneously misspelled the word 'naat', which means praise for holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). This was reported to the school administration and, eventually, the news spread like wildfire. The end result of the matter, despite an apology from the girl and her family over the mistake, was that the girl was expelled from school and her mother, a nurse in the local hospital, was transferred to another area.

The local clerics and prayer leaders utilized this opportunity to create an environment of tension through their sermons, demanding strict action not only against the girl but also against her family for the alleged sacrilege. The administration was held hostage and forced to take a decision to defuse the growing tensions. At least, for the time being, tensions was defused, but at the cost of trauma and guilt inflicted on the girl and her family in particular, and on the Christian community in general.

According to Human Rights Watch's (HRW) 21st Annual World Report 2011, discriminatory laws and violence against minorities in Pakistan are a major concern. Recently, there has been a spike in the hatred that is being spread across the country against religious minorities. The hate speech and rhetoric against religious minorities, especially Christians, has done irreparable damage to our society.

Minorities have been alienated; they consider themselves vulnerable and not viewed as equal citizens. The so-called religious clerics are responsible for such rhetoric and, not surprisingly, always manage to herd the poor and ignorant populace in the name of religion, while silencing any opposition by threatening retribution and dire consequences. What happened to the unfortunate eighth grade student had nothing to do with blasphemy. It was sheer discrimination against a non-Muslim.

The minority groups have actively contributed to the progress and development of the country. There are numerous success stories from these communities and they have always stood shoulder to shoulder with the entire country in its hour of need. These are testing times for them and now they require our support more than ever before.

Daily Times Sept 26, 2011

Only five out of 57 Muslim majority states have blasphemy laws

Religious scholars and lawyers, who have unequivocally supported the blasphemy law in its existing shape, said that similar laws that carry capital punishment for blasphemers are being practiced in hardly five Muslim majority countries out of 57.

Article 98(f) of the Penal Code of Egyptian Constitution, as amended by Law 147/2006 states the penalty for blasphemy and similar crimes states: "Confinement for a period of not less than six months and not exceeding five years, or a fine of not less than five hundred pounds and not exceeding one thousand pounds shall be the penalty inflicted on whoever makes use of religion in propagating, either by words, in writing, or in any other means, extreme ideas for the purpose of inciting strife, ridiculing or insulting a heavenly religion or a sect following it, or damaging national unity."

In Afghanistan, the issues relating to blasphemy are governed by Sharia permitting capital punishment for such an offender.

Besides Egypt and UAE, there are several other Muslim majority

countries that have blasphemy laws but no capital punishment for the offenders. For example, Algeria together with Pakistan moved a resolution in the United Nations on Defamation of religions, but its Constitution doesn't permit death sentence for blasphemy. The law prohibits blasphemy using legislation rather than applying Sharia laws. The penalty for blasphemy may be imprisonment as well as a fine.

Likewise, in Jordan, the punishment for this crime is imprisonment, not death sentence. For example, Jihad Momani, a Jordanian journalist, published three of the cartoons in the Shihan weekly, along with an editorial calling on Muslims to be reasonable. He was fired from job and arrested later on but was not awarded capital punishment.

In Malaysia, the Constitution's sections 295-298A of the Penal Code punish offences against all religions with up to three years in prison or a fine of around US\$1,000. Section 156(a) of the Indonesian Criminal Code prohibits any conduct that affronts a "recognized religion" (identified as Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Roman Catholicism or Protestantism). But this largest Islamic country doesn't have capital punishment as sentence for the blasphemy but imprisonment up to five years as well as fine.

The News January 12, 2011

Weekly Zarb-e-Momin of the banned Al Rashid Trust reported that blasphemy law was not abused because according to Law Ministry no one had ever been executed for blasphemy in Pakistan. It said that this law was in force in 57 countries of the world.

Friday Times 14-20, 2011

Blasphemy law is debatable: Maulana Ashrafi

Pakistan Ulema Counsel Chairman Mr. Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi condemned the murder of Punjab Governor Salmaan Taseer and said that those who issued edicts for the Punjab governor's murder over blasphemy issues were not muftis.

He said that Aasia Bibi and Qadri's cases were in court and the court would give its verdicts regarding the cases and we should wait and respect the court's verdicts. He said that Taseer's matter was in God's court now.

Ashrafi reminded that Taseer had repeatedly said that only a fanatic could commit blasphemy, adding that Taseer was killed just for talking about the law. He said that laws made by Zia ul Haq, were

debatable, adding that those who say that a debate on blasphemy law was not possible were misleading the nation. He challenged anyone to prove any of Taseer's statements in which he committed blasphemy and which warranted his death. He said that violence could not defend religion, adding that Islam was a religion of peace and we should adopt the Holy Prophet's (PBUH) way of life and not take the law in our hands. **Daily Times January 11, 2011**

Government against misuse of blasphemy law: Gillani

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani reassured religious scholars on January 18, 2011 that his government had no intention to change the blasphemy law, but said it would ensure that the law was not used to settle personal vendetta against any individual or religious group. **Dawn Jan19, 2011**

KPK assembly opposes changes in blasphemy law

The Provincial Assembly of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, through a unanimous resolution, urged the Federal government not to introduce any amendments to the blasphemy law.

Dawn January 8, 2011

Blasphemy law should remain intact: Aitzaz

Mr. Chaudhry Aitzaz Ahsan Pakistan People's Party senior leader said the blasphemy laws should remain intact, and if Governor Salmaan Taseer had committed any mistake or blasphemy, instead of killing him he should have been punished under the laws of the country. **Daily Times January 11, 2011**

No change in blasphemy law: Malik

Interior Minister Rehman Malik has said the government is not making any change in the blasphemy law.

The News January 14, 2011

Religious parties rally against Pope

A protest rally was held by Tehreek-e-Hurmat-e-Rasool (PBUH) against Pope Benedict's statements and an American priest on January 16, 2011.

The News January 17, 2011

Justice (Retd) Nazir for blasphemy law

Quoted in Jang retired Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court Mian Nazir Akhtar said that undoing blasphemy law would be treason even if done by a majority in parliament. He was addressing an Ahle Sunnat gathering in Lahore. He became famous as a sitting judge when he told a social gathering that blasphemers should be killed and not brought to the court of law.

Friday Times January 21-27, 2011

“No option” but to abide by PM's decision on blasphemy: Sherry

Ms. Sherry Rehman (the former Minister for Information) moved parliament to reform the legislation after a Christian woman, Asia Bibi was sentenced to death, but the private member's bill was never listed on parliament's agenda.

Despite escalating international condemnation, the government refuses to consider any amendment, bowing to protest from the nation's powerful religious right-wing. She expressed helplessness after Pakistan's Prime Minister refused to give parliamentary support to efforts to reform blasphemy laws.

Dawn February 3, 2011

Babar against amending blasphemy law, pardoning Aasia

Mr. Babar Awan, Law Minister, strongly advised the Prime Minister to neither amend the blasphemy law nor pardon Asia Bibi on February 7, 2011, arguing that the said law containing death penalty for a blasphemer, as interpreted by the Federal Shariat Court, is in consonance with the injunctions of Islam as laid down in Holy Quran and the Sunnah of Holy Prophet (PBUH).

Rejecting the propaganda that the law has been used to target many, he narrated the fact: “Pakistan being a very responsible state was capable of creating such lego-constitutional mechanism of trials, appeals and constitutional and other procedural remedies that even since 1986 till date, reportedly, no execution has taken place under this law so far. This fact is an ample proof alone of safeguards embodied in the entrenched judicial practices in this country.”

The News February 8, 2011

Asfandiyar Wali: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Mr. Asfandiyar Wali (President Awami National Party, ANP) clarified his statement made in India over amendment in blasphemy law and said that his statement was taken out of context, as he has never demanded amendment in blasphemy law. He said that he talked about misuse of blasphemy law during his visit.

Ahmadi Times April 29, 2011

'No party can dare to amend Blasphemy Law': Pervez Elahi

Mr. Chaudhry Parvez Elahi (PML-Q) has said on January 31, 2011 that he will leave assembly which dares to amend blasphemy law and their party will be the first to quit such an assembly.

Pakistan News Watch

Ideology Council approves blasphemy laws

Daily Jinnah reported that Council for Islamic Ideology (CII) had issued a statement saying that blasphemy law was an Islamic law and was in accordance with Quran and Sunnah. The CII is headed by Maulana Sherani of JUI and that has changed the CII making to more orthodox and less intellectual. Many renowned clerics disagree that blasphemy law is Islamic.

Friday Times December 2-8, 2011

2. International concerns for blasphemy

UK calls on Pakistan to amend blasphemy laws

British Home Secretary Ms. Theresa May said Britain will continue to lobby the Pakistani government for making amendments in the country's controversial blasphemy laws to prevent more innocent people falling on its wrong side. **The News January 14, 2011**

EU parliament's resolution for amendment in blasphemy laws

The European parliament urged Pakistan President to pardon and release Ms. Asia Bibi, a Christian woman sentenced to death for blasphemy against Islam.

In a resolution adopted by the 736-seat Assembly, the parliamentarians asked "the Pakistani authorities to free Asia Bibi immediately" and urged Mr. Zardari "to use his constitutional authority to pardon her." **Dawn January 20, 2011**

US Congressional resolution seeks repeal of blasphemy law

A resolution introduced in the US Congress has asked the American government to lead an international effort to repeal blasphemy laws in countries like Pakistan where two high-profile politicians were assassinated in 2011 for opposing the controversial statute. Introduced by Republican Senator Mr. James Inhofe, the Senate resolution listed out a series of incidents related to the blasphemy laws in the Muslim world, including Pakistan.

<http://www.dnaindia.com>. April 16, 2011

End death penalty for blasphemy

World Churches Council urged Government of Pakistan to end the punishment of death for blasphemy in Pakistan. It appealed to Pakistan to reconsidered Section 295-C while some religious groups in Pakistan were defending the killer of Governor Taseer who had taken the law into his own hands suspecting the governor of having committed blasphemy. **Friday Times November 11-17, 2011**

House of Commons calls on Pakistan to release Asia Bibi

On December 8, 2011, the House of Commons unanimously passed the following motion: "That, the House of Commons joins the Senate of Canada in calling upon the Government of Pakistan to immediately release Ms. Asia Bibi, to ensure her safety and well-being, to hear the outcry of the international community and to respect the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

ICC News December 12, 2011

3. Christian victims

1. Assassination of Shahbaz Bhatti: Islamabad

Mr. Shahbaz Bhatti, Federal Minister for Minority Affairs was assassinated by unknown assailants on March 2, 2011, near his residence in I/8 Sector, Islamabad.

He received 30 bullets which were fired by two gunmen with automatic rifle(s). He was rushed to a Hospital by his driver, however pronounced dead by the doctors.

While the Talibans claimed the responsibility, the attack was widely condemned at national and international level. Civil Society of Pakistan and Christian leadership strongly condemned the assassination of Mr. Bhatti. His funeral and burial rituals were performed on March 4, in Khushpur, his native village near Faisalabad.

After the assassination of Governor Salman Taseer who expressed sympathy for Asia Bibi, a Christian convicted under the blasphemy law, this was another attack on the freedom of expression and conscience of the people of Pakistan and sovereignty of the state. The extremist forces have silenced all enlightened and moderate voices.

NCJP

2. Agnes Bibi: Faisalabad

Ms. Agnes (50), resident of Ibn-e-Mariam colony, Faisalabad, was charged in a concocted case on complaint of Mr. Muhammad Idrees (a property dealer) under Section 295-A, PPC (FIR # 136/2011) for hurting the religious sentiment of Muslims by pronouncing derogatory remarks against Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) on February 16, 2011.

Agnes told NCJP team that she was implicated over the issue of a

residential plot between Ms. Anwar Teresa and Mr. Naeem Gulzar (both Christians) as she often used to go with Ms. Teresa for follow up of the under trial case in Session court of Faisalabad.

The complainant stated that there was exchange of harsh words between Agnes and Gulzar. They tried to make it a religious issue to include the opposite party. She said that Gulzar and his companions used insulting remarks about Prophet Muhammad. After an inquiry by Mr. Adrees, no such conversation was observed during the quarrel. On the contrary, she herself became a target for alleged blasphemy by Idrees. She was granted bail by Mr. Suleman Baig, Additional District and Session judge on October 14, 2011. The original case against her has reduced to a lower charge under Article 153-A, PPC which allowed her to be released on bail. **NCJP**

3. Arif Masih: Faisalabad

On April 5, 2011 at Chak Jhumra, district Faisalabad, Mr. Arif Masih (40) was arrested by police, for alleged ripping off the pages of Holy Quran.

A case (FIR # 133/2011) was registered under Section 295-C, PPC against unknown person with local Police Station Sahiyanwala by Mr. Shahid Yousaf, a neighbor of Masih, he was arrested and detained by police at unknown place for investigation and protection.

Mr. Ejaz Masih, brother of Masih informed NCJP that Arif Masih was implicated in this fabricated case by Mr. Yousaf, a Muslim to grab a house adjacent to his which Arif purchased. Two brothers of the complainant are reportedly serving in Elite Police Force and used their influence to register a case against Arif Masih.

The local Muslims and Christian believed that Arif Masih had a sound reputation and it was unimaginable that he could commit acts alleged in the complaint. He was implicated in this incident to grab the land only. After investigation police dropped charges against Mr. Masih and released him on April 11, 2011. **NCJP**

4. Babar Masih: Sahiwal

Mr. Babar Masih (25), a person suffering from psychiatric disorder, was alleged of using abusive language against the Holy Personage of Islam in Chichawatni District Sahiwal on May 2, 2011. He was booked under Section 298 and 298-A, PPC.

Local Muslim religious leaders reportedly put pressures on people to

make 'false statements' against him. Police arrested Masih to prevent him from being lynched. His family and relatives fled from their homes after receiving serious threats.

A mob gathered near Masih's home demanding that Masih be handed over to them so that "justice" could be done. He was granted bail by the Magisterial Court of Chichawatni, district Sahiwal.

Asia News

5. Dildar Masih: Khanewal

Mr. Dildar Masih (35) was accused of desecrating "Kalma-e-Tayyaba" (proclamation of faith) on June 10, 2011 at Chak # 6/8 AR, Mian Channun district Khanewal.

Ahtisham an Eight year nephew of Dildar was stopped and asked to recite the Kalma-e-Tayyba and embrace Islam by some Muslim students of an Islamic seminary. On refusal, they started beating him: meanwhile, his uncle Dildar Masih intervened to stop them. A cleric of a nearby mosque provoked the Muslims against Masih, by using mosque's amplifier. A mob gathered in front of Masih's house to 'punish' him. Police arrested him and registered a case # 211/11 against the Dildar Masih under Section 298-A, PPC and Section 16 of the maintenance of Public Order. Judicial Magistrate Mr. Abdul Karim released Dildar Masih on bail against furnishing surety bond of one hundred thousand on March 23, 2012. Later, Masih set free from the New Central Jail, Multan on March 28, 2012 as there was no evidence produced against him.

NCJP

6. Khuram Masih: Lahore

Mr. Khuram Masih was arrested and charged with blasphemy in Lahore on December 5, 2011, after a reported dispute with his Muslim landlord Mr. Zulfiqar Ali, in which Ali accused him of burning pages of the Quran in order to make tea.

Police registered an FIR under Section 295-B, PPC against Masih who went before a judicial magistrate and remains in judicial custody. Masih lived in a rented building with his wife in Shahdra Town. Another tenant told Ali that the couple had set pages of the Holy Qur'an on fire to light a fire to make tea. He was released on bail.

NCJP

7. Sajjad Masih: Pakpattan

Mr. Sajjad Masih, resident of Pakpattan, was arrested under blasphemy charges on December 23, 2011, on allegation of sending blasphemous SMS messages to some Muslims of Gojra through his

cell phone. The Police stated that the SIM card is registered by the name of a Christian Ms. Roma Ilyas from Gojra.

On reports of local Muslims, the police of Gojra registered an FIR under Section 295-C, PPC against Masih and arrested him. The police detained another Christian Mr. Iftikhar Masih for investigation in Sajjad Masih case but later released him.

Ahmadiyya Times Dec. 29, 2011

8. Barkat Masih: Bahawalpur

Mr. Barkat Masih (56), resident of Khairpur Tamewali Bahawalpur District, was falsely accused under section 295-C on October 1, 2011.

Masih converted from Hinduism to Christianity and worked as a sweeper at three places i.e. Fazal High School, Madrassa Khair-ul-Aloom and a Muslim Shrine. He was considered as a hard-worker and trustworthy person. Mr. Muhammad Saleem and Mr. Muhammad Shoaib wanted to use Barkat for occupying the land that belonged to shrine. They asked him the duplicate keys to hold the legal documents of the property but he refused to hand over the keys. Both threatened him for dire consequences. A month later they submitted an application in the Police Station of Khairpur Tamewali that Masih had committed blasphemy against Prophet of Islam and Allah. Masih was arrested by police and sent to Central jail, Bahawalpur. The Sessions Court of Bahawalpur acquitted Barkat on January 29, 2013.

WVIP

Allegations

1. Uzma and mother: Lahore

Ms. Uzma and her mother were beaten by their Muslim neighbors and Mr. Muhammad Sameer, over an allegation of committing blasphemy. The Christian family left the locality due to death threats.

According to the family, the allegations stemmed from a dispute between Uzma and her sister in law, Ms. Amina, wife of Mr. Waqas Sahal (converted to Islam). The fight revolved around the upbringing of Sahal and Amina's 18-months daughter. Amina wanted to raise her daughter as a Muslim but Uzma wanted her niece to be raised as Christian.

On the next day of the dispute, Amina alleged Uzma of passing derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH), however she

denied the allegation. Later, the issue was settled by an intervention of a social worker. **Express Tribune January 15, 2011**

2. Mushtaq Gill: Gujranwala

Mr. Mushtaq Gill and his son Mr. Farrukh Mushtaq Gill were alleged for desecrating Quranic verses and passing derogatory remarks against Islam at Aziz Colony, Gujranwala on April 14, 2011.

The situation became tense when some local Muslims gathered to protest against the alleged desecration near a majority Christian settlement Khokharki consisting of four colonies (Islam Colony, Mission Compound, Gulzar Colony and Aziz Colony) in Gujranwala city. The local Christians especially residents of Aziz Colony left their houses for safety. The police registered a complaint, however sealed it to maintain law and order in the city. Both accused and other Christians were released after investigation however the incidents kept the Christian community in the district, (150,000 approximately) for nearly 40 days on heels whereas 15 Christians were detained and investigated by police for the whole period.

NCJP

3. Gulzar Masih: Sialkot

Mr. Gulzar Masih (a businessman) and his son Suleman were alleged of burning the pages of the Holy Quran by their Muslim rival in Sialkot.

Gulzar and his Muslim friend Mr. Abdul Rauf were business partners in a book shop for last ten years. Soon their business flourished and they expanded their shop. Seeing the success, Rauf wanted to take over the entire business. There were rifts between the two. Both agreed to go part ways in 2009 resulting in individual shops named Delight books & New Delight books. Gulzar's unit began to thrive while Rauf nurtured grudge.

When Masih's son Suleman went early morning to open their shop and he found some burnt pages of the Quran under the shutter. The employees of Rauf began to shout, accusing Gulzar and his son of committing insult to Quran. The noise gathered more Muslims from the area and passers-by who attempted to attack Suleman but he was lucky enough to escape from the crowd. The mob then proceeded to set Gulzar's shop on fire however police reached on time and prevented the crowd from burning the shop and dispersed all those gathered. Gulzar Masih, his son and the rest of the family went into hiding for about a month however the police prevented any registration of case. **Pakistan Christian TV May 12, 2011**

4. Faryal Tauseef: Abbotabad

Ms. Faryal Tauseef (13), eighth-grader at Sir Syed High School Havelian, Abbottabad, was scolded, beaten and expelled for misspelling the word 'naat' (a poem in Prophet's praise) as "Lannat" which means curse, because the construction of both words in Urdu language is similar. She was accused of committing blasphemy after she wrote the word by mistake. Her mother, a nurse, was also transferred to another town.

After consulting local clerics, the school administration decided to rusticate the girl though she confessed that she used the word in error. Police did not register the case, and said that the matter was considered over following a pardon from clerics.

Dawn September 26, 2011

5. Mumtaz Bhatti: Sargodha

Mr. Mumtaz Bhatti, a Christian teacher and father of two, was alleged of passing blasphemous remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH) by a student of 8th class, Abad-ul-Rehman Riaz and Qari Kamran a teacher of Comprehensive School in Silanwali Sargodha on 22 December, 2011.

The Muslim staff, due to jealousy, incited this fabricated issue in the area and demanded to register an FIR. The local clerics imposed Fatwa on Mumtaz that he is a blasphemer and shall be arrested immediately and punished according to the law. They also lodged an application against Mumtaz Bhatti in Silanwali Police Station on 25 December 2011. In a while, the matter was resolved through negotiations with the religious leaders.

NCJP

6 Hector and others: Rawalpindi

An Additional District and Sessions Judge of Rawalpindi court, Mr. Sarfraz Akhtar acquitted Mr. Hector Haleem, Mr. Basharat Masih and Mr. Robin Masih from the charges of sending blasphemous text messages.

The RA Bazaar police had registered a criminal case against unknown persons on the complaint of Mr. Ghufraan Sialvi in March 2010. The court also ordered criminal action against the investigation officer and the complainant after they could not prove the charges against the accused.

The Express Tribune June 3, 2011

7 Aslam Masih: Lahore

The post-mortem report indicated that a Christian, Mr. Aslam Masih

of Bhatta Chowk Lahore, accused of blasphemy died in prison due to Dengue fever on September 9, 2011. He was arrested under Section 295-B by the police in the beginning of 2010 after two members of the Tablighi Jammah (Islamic evangelist) falsely accused him of committing blasphemy. The police initially released Masih due to lack of evidence but later re-arrested him after facing pressure from radical Muslims. **NCJP**

8 Rehmat Masih: Faisalabad

On November 28, 2011, the Additional Sessions Judge of Faisalabad district court acquitted, Mr. Rehmat Masih (74), on the grounds of insufficient evidences against him. Masih was in prison since June 2010. He was proven innocent after charges leveled at him by a Muslim Mr. Sajid Hameed. **NCJP**

Muslim victims

1. Muhammad Amjad: Kot Addu

Mr. Muhammad Amjad, a mentally retarded, was accused of committing blasphemy along with his father, Muhammad Nazir and a relative, Mr. Muhammad Iqbal at Chak # 621 TDA Chowk Sarwar Shaheed, Kot Addu on January 5, 2011.

A case number 4/11 was registered under section 295-B and 109 of PPC by a local cleric Mr. Muhammad Sajid. The police stated that the accused set the holy Quran on fire in the courtyard of the mosque where Sajid was serving as the cleric. The complainant claimed that he did not see Amjad perpetrating the act personally. He only found the desecrated Quran in the mosque premises while his students told him that the deed was committed by Amjad. Moreover, he also stated that Amjad his father Nazir and a relative Iqbal must have collaborated.

The locals told that there was a rift between the families of Sajid and Amjad and the complainant used the blasphemy allegation as a tool to settle his score with his rivals. They also alleged that the authorities picked up both the father and son despite knowing that Amjad was mentally disturbed person and that the police was favoring the complainant in this case.

Daily Times January 8, 2011

2. Ghulam Abbas: Sheikhpura

Mr. Ghulam Abbas(23) of Muridke district Sheikhpura was falsely blamed for insulting the Holy Personages. He was arrested on January 8, 2011 under section 295-A, PPC.

According to Abbas, he hoisted a flag in the memory of Imam Hussain (Razi Allah Tala Anhu) on the roof top of his house. The local cleric objected and forced him to remove it. The cleric also accused him of committing blasphemy. **CLAAS**

3. Haq Nawaz: Faisalabad

Mr. Haq Nawaz (85) resident of Allama Iqbal district Faisalabad was falsely charged under blasphemy accusations on January 28, 2011.

Nawaz was implicated in a blasphemy case by his neighbor who allegedly wanted to grab his house, allotted by government. The police arrested him under section 295-B and registered a case no. 67/2011. **CLAAS**

4. Syed Samiullah: Karachi

Mr. Syed Samiullah (17) was arrested on allegations of having blasphemed the Holy Prophet (PBUH) in answer sheets of intermediate Board exams April 2010 at Mujtaba Town, Malir, Karachi, on January 29, 2011.

The judicial magistrate sent the suspect to juvenile prison on judicial remand and ordered the investigation officer to submit a charge-sheet after investigation. In initial investigations, the boy confessed the crime. He told that my cousins from Norway, during their stay in Pakistan, used to influence his religious beliefs and persuaded him to commit such acts. The police registered an FIR under Section 295-C of the PPC against Samiullah. **Dawn January 30, 2011**

5. Shahnawaz and Ilyas: Mansehra

Mr. Shahnawaz and Mr. Ilyas were arrested allegedly with stolen copies of Holy Quran from a mosque on Abbotabad road, Mansehra and buried them in the courtyard of their house. After the incident, a large number of people gathered outside the house and called police. During search, over 100 copies of the Holy Quran wrapped in cloth and plastic bags were found buried in the veranda. Police arrested Shahnawaz and his brother Ilyas.

Dawn January 31, 2011

6. Allah Buksh: Bahawalnagar

Daily Jinnah reported that Mr. Allah Buksh in Bahawalnagar allegedly burnt the Quran and coffin of Darbar Sharaf Shah Shrine because he was feeling too cold. He said he could not bear the cold and therefore burnt the Quran. He was taken in custody.

The Friday Times Feb. 4-10, 2011

7. Shafique: Okara

Mr. Shafique, a shopkeeper, was arrested for hoisting the flag, bearing holy symbols, in front of his shop and allegedly tied a shoe to it which hurt the religious sentiments of some locals in Shamsia Colony Okara. On the complaint of Mr. Sabir Ali, police registered a case against him under section 295-A, PPC.

Dawn February 07, 2011

8. Tanveer Ahmed: Rajanpur

Mr. Tanveer Ahmad, a teacher at Government High School Dhandla, Rajanpur district was booked by the police of Bhakkar on the complaint of his student that the teacher disrespected the images of holy places and the footprint of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) on February 20, 2011. He was suspended from his services and faced a departmental inquiry.

The accused was slapped, kicked and thrashed by the locals instigated by announcements on mosques' public address systems and text messages. He was taken to the Bhakkar Hospital only to be referred to Multan Nishtar Hospital due to serious injuries. The police lodged FIRs against Ahmad and protesters. Mr. Humayun Masood Sandhu, DPO said that a committee has been constituted for investigating the matter. He said the accused remained under treatment and he did not join the investigation. He said that police also tried to rip off the instigators.

Dawn February 21, 2011

9. Muhammad Aamir: Rawalpindi

Mr. Muhammad Aamir (38), a mentally ill, was accused of mistakenly burning a Holy Quran on February 23, 2011 at Gujar Khan Rawalpindi district. He was arrested on the complaint of his neighbor. A case # 115/2011 was registered under section 295-B at the police station Gujar Khan. He was sentenced for seven years by the Additional Sessions judge, Rawalpindi.

CLAAS

10. Idrees Khan: Karachi

A mentally-challenged, Mr. Idrees Khan (32) was accused of blasphemy for allegedly torching pages of the Holy Quran in Karachi. He was sent to jail on judicial remand by the Magistrate on February 26, 2011.

According to father of accused Mr. Essa Khan, a day before the incident, he and Idrees visited a Peshimam of a mosque in the area who asked them to bury the leaves of the Holy Quran after setting them on fire. He said the Peshimam assured us that it was not a sin.

However, a woman saw Idrees and raised a hue and cry as he went about the task. Around 250 residents gathered and beat him before hustling him off to the police. Enraged people gathered outside the police station to force the police to register a case FIR No. 57/11.

The Express Tribune Feb.27, 2011

11. Fiaz Hussain: Sialkot

Mr. Fiaz Hussain (45), resident of Pasroor district Sialkot, was charged for tearing a sticker printed with the name of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and sacred name of Allah from the inside wall of the mosque. The police arrested him and registered a case 98/2011 under section 295-C at Pasroor on March 3, 2011. Hussain discussed the issue of Azan (the morning prayers), mosque's registration and the misuse of the mosque's donation, which irritated the cleric who decided to give him a lesson and intrigued Hussain in a false blasphemy case.

CLAAS

12. Muhammad Ashiq: Faisalabad

Mr. Muhammad Ashiq (45) was accused of blasphemy under section 295-B and a case 207/2011 was registered against him on March 16, 2011 at Raza Abad police station, Faisalabad.

CLAAS

13. Abid Shah: Sialkot

On March 25, 2011, Satrah police in Tehsil Daska district Sialkot registered a case against Mr. Abid Shah for allegedly speaking against the companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

www.Staseer.wordpress.com

14. Yaqoob Shah: Gilgit

Mr. Yagoob was booked for uttering derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on the complaint by Mr. Abdur Rauf of Kondas, Gilgit. The police arrested and charged him under sections 295, 296, 298, 500 and 506 of PPC. Mr. Taifur Shah, the father of the accused approached the police and claimed that what his son did was unintentional as he had suffered from mental sickness in the past. He also showed them documents to support his claim. Police, however, asked him to present the documents in court when the hearing begins.

Dawn March 27, 2011

15. Muhammad Fiaz: Lahore

Mr. Muhammad Fiaz (30), a mentally ill, was accused of burning the pages of the Holy Quran at Gujarpura, Lahore. He was beaten up by his family and later handed over to the police who registered a case under section 295-B, PPC on March 29, 2011

CLAAS

16. Ghulam Mustafa: Multan

Mr. Ghulam Mustafa, resident of Ali Town-II, Multan was booked under Section 295-B for allegedly burning pages of the Holy Quran, on March 30, 2011.

Complainant Mr. Qari Kareem Buksh Saeedi, a cleric said the children of the accused came to him sent by their mother with a message that he was beating his wife and burning the pages of the Holy Quran. But he himself did not see the accused doing so and did not recover any burnt pages. He seized some semi-charred pages from the Tandoor (earthen oven). There were a few burnt pages of a children's learning book containing holy words and not the pages of the holy book. A mob gathered in front of Mustafa's house wanted to lynch the suspect, however, on the intervention of some elders, the suspect was handed over to the police which registered an FIR No 214/11 against him and sent him behind the bars.

Dawn March 31, 2011

17. Akhtar Hussain: Kasur

Mr. Akhtar Hussain of Kasur was accused of tearing a copy of the Bible into pieces and also tried to burn it before being caught red-handed at the entrance of the St. Joseph's Church in Lahore. Police arrested him and registered a case under section 295-A of the PPC.

The Express Tribune April 9, 2011

18. Muhammad Hussain: Naushera

Mr. Muhammad Hussain, an Afghan national, was arrested allegedly burning the copies of the Holy Quran near at a refugee camp of Akora Khattak, Nowshera. He confessed that he had burnt copies of the Holy Quran saying that he wanted to save it from desecration. The news of the incident spread in Naushera and people started assembling outside the Akora Khattak Madrassa to protest. The protesters asked the government to investigate the incident on scientific lines. They sought exemplary punishment for the accused.

The News April 9, 2011

19. Abdullah: Mardan

Mr. Abdullah was allegedly accused of desecrating the Holy Quran by his father Mr. Rehmanullah at Shahbaz Garha village in Mardan district.

Rehmanullah got an FIR registered against his son. He said his son had divorced his wife a few days back and was in a state of shock since then. He said that Abdullah lost temper while arguing over some dispute with his family members and tore some pages from

the Holy Quran. The police registered the case under 295-B of the Pakistan Penal Code against the accused.

The News April 20, 2011

20. Saiful Malook: Hangu (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa)

Police arrested Mr. Saiful Malook (27), a resident of Kotki Bala, Hangu Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province under the blasphemy law for desecrating the Quran on April 27, 2011. Police said that Malook was injured when some persons fired at him while he was allegedly burning copies of the Quran. He was admitted to a private hospital.

Ahmadiyya Times April 27, 2011

21. Haji Muhammad Sher Khan: Faisalabad

Mr. Haji Muhammad Sher Khan (50) was accused of burning the verses of the Holy Quran by his brother in Satya Jaranwala district Faisalabad on April 30, 2011.

While working in Dubai for 20 years, Khan has been sending his earnings to his brother for saving. When Khan returned to Pakistan and asked about the money, his brother started quarrelling with him, then implicated Khan in a false blasphemy case. He was arrested under Section 295-B, PPC

CLAAS

22. Irfan Rafique: Lahore

Mr. Irfan Rafique was allegedly accused of sending text messages which contained derogatory language against Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Police registered an FIR against him on the complaint, Mr. Qasim, under the section 295-C of the PPC. Rafique was in jail since March 30. A lawyer defending Rafique was attacked at the Sessions court and forced to promise that he would not represent his client.

Express Tribune May 27, 2011

23. Basharat: Sargodha

Mr. Basharat was accused of allegedly sending text messages that contained blasphemous content about the companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) in Sargodha. He was arrested on May 19, 2011 after a complainant was received against him. Police added Section 295-A and 298-A following a protest demonstration in front of the police station in a case first registered against Mr. Basharat under Telegraph Act for sending blasphemous text messages to Mr. Shehzad.

The Express Tribune May 27, 2011

24. Mulazam Sultan: Lahore

Mr. Mulazam Sultan (35), resident of Jhang, was falsely accused of

blasphemy. A case FIR # 541/2011 was registered against him under section 295-B, PPC on July 1, 2011 at Mozang, Lahore.

CLAAS

25. Rafiq Ahmed: Rahimyar Khan

Mr. Rafiq Ahmed, a barber of Basti Ghaziabad Khanpur district Rahimyar Khan, was arrested and charged with blasphemy under Section 295 after being accused by a local prayer leader of using pages from the Quran to clean mirrors at his shop on July 6, 2011. Ahmed claimed that he is illiterate and did not know that verses of the Quran were written on the papers. The barbershop was closed and Ahmed's family had fled. www.humanrightsfirst.org

26. A press owner: Karachi

A case (FIR 181/2011) was lodged under Section 295-A against the owner of the printing press and his colleague. A printing press was attacked and its owner severely beaten by the mob in the burns road, Karachi

The SHO said that the police arrested the suspect who has confessed of printing the book but denied any knowledge of the material being printed. He said the printing press was sealed and material of the book was taken into custody. Sunni Tehreek activist Mr. Fayaz Ali Qadri told that the book is full of blasphemous material including sketches of holy personalities and material against them.

Pakistan Today July 30, 2011

27. Muhammad Akram: Faisalabad

Mr. Muhammad Akram (45), a magician was held for alleged Quran burning by Mureedwala police. A case was registered against him under Section 295-B, PPC. On September 20, Akram and his client, Mr. Muhammad Sarfraz went to graveyard where he started chanting what he claimed were 'magic words' over a script of the Holy Quran. He then allegedly set the holy book on fire. A case was registered against him on the complaint of Sarfraz. Akram; presented before the judicial magistrate who sent him on a judicial remand and adjourning hearing for two weeks.

Express Tribune Sept. 22, 2011

28. Rizwan: Faisalabad

Mr. Rizwan (35), resident of Maqsoodabad district Faisalabad, was arrested on September 21, 2011. The police registered a blasphemy case against him on the complainant of his neighbor, Mr. Muhammad Shafique, who allegedly saw him burning the pages of the Holy Quran.

Mob gathered outside his house and chanted slogans against him. Some of the people also threw stones at the house and threatened to burn it down. In a statement to the police, Rizwan said that he had burned some torn pages that he picked from the street to "maintain the dignity of the holy book." He said he was a practicing Muslim and 'could not even think of disrespecting' the sanctity of the Holy Quran. The magistrate on September 22, 2011 sent him to jail.

The Express Tribune September 23, 2011

29. Junaid Ahmed: Chakwal

Mr. Junaid Ahmed (20), a student of Madrassa, was subjected to severe torture and charged with blasphemy for disposing off the pages by burning them on October 4, 2011 in Chakwal.

Mr. Akhtar Nisar saw Ahmed burning the pages and raised a hue and cry. Some people gathered and started torturing him. He kept pleading that he was burning the holy pages to protect them from desecration but the crowd did not listen to him. Nisar later informed police who arrested Ahmed. Police produced him before the court of Magistrate Mr. Aitasham Muqarab. Ahmed told the court that he was a devout Muslim and could never think of blaspheming the holy book. The court sent him on judicial lockup to Jhelum prison.

Dawn Oct. 5, 11

30. Amjad and his wife: Sialkot

Mr. Amjad alias Toka and his wife Ms. Samreen were booked under section 295-C, PPC on the report of Khateeb (a religious speaker) Mr. Maulana Ghulam Hussain who alleged that the couple had used derogatory words against Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in his mosque on December 8, 2011 in Sialkot. Hussain attempted to use the allegations to settle a personal vendetta.

Amjad faced a second blasphemy case in two and half years. The earlier case (FIR No. 389/2009) was registered by police under Section 295-C on September 14, 2009 in Nawa Pind village, Sialkot. The local court in Sialkot had bailed the accused in the earlier case.

The family of the suspect accused Sialkot Saddar police of registering the blasphemy case in haste and alleged police was involved in registering a false case. They said police was obliged to verify an incident before registering a case, adding that police had registered two blasphemy cases against Amjad with the first case yet to be proved against him. Police said locals had told them the accused had an old money dispute with the accuser, Hussain.

However, accuser refuted the allegation of a monetary dispute with the accused. On December 9, a local court sent the accused couple to Sialkot Jail.

Pakistan Today December 11, 2011

31. Mohammad Zafar Zaidi: Karachi

Mr. Muhammad Zafar Zaidi (62), was accused of sending blasphemous text messages to Mr. Bashir Ahmed, was arrested on December 11, 2011. An FIR # 700/2011 was lodged under Sections 295-C, 296-A and 298-A, PPC against Zaidi at the Surjani Town Police Station, Karachi on December 16, 2011.

Dawn January 9, 2012

32. Manzoor Ahmad: Lahore

Mr. Manzoor Ahmad (42), mentally retarded, was accused of disgracing the Holy Quran. He was arrested and a case no 148/2011 was registered under section 295-B and 436, PPC in Lahore.

CLAAS

33. Muhammad Asim: Lahore

Mr. Muhammad Asim (35) was arrested under section 295-B after being alleged of committing blasphemy by complainant Mr. Muhammad Faisal. A case no 615/2011 was registered against him in Lahore.

CLAAS

34. Muhammad Arshad: Faisalabad

Mr. Muhammad Arshad (40) was accused by his brothers of disgracing the Holy Quran. Police arrested him and a case 509/2011 under section 295-B, PPC was registered against him.

Arshad said, he is drug addict and his brothers refused to give his share of the property. On the day of occurrence, he was heavy intoxicated and two copies of Holy Quran fell down on the floor by him mistakenly.

CLAAS

Allegation

1. Amar Ali and his wife: Sialkot

Mr. Amar Ali and Mrs. Nazia Amar, who were accused of desecrating the Holy Quran and Hadith in Sialkot, protested at the Karachi Press Club on January 18, 2011 denying the allegation leveled against them.

Talking to the media, Ali said that his business rivals might be behind the conspiracy against him and his family. He further said that he belongs to a very noble and religious family and cannot even think of

committing such an act. He further said that their business and family lives were ruined after the allegations and they are forced to live out of their homes in order to survive. He briefed that the law enforcers were continuously searching their family houses to arrest them.

Daily Times January 19, 2011

2. Two Muslim sects: Rawalpindi

In Rawalpindi, rival Muslim sects blamed each other of committing blasphemy - an incident that sparked a clash and resulted in two deaths and one injury. A case was registered under the blasphemy and anti-terrorism laws.

Pakistan Today February 7, 2011

3. Noor Khan and Idrees: Dera Ghazi Khan

Mr. Noor Khan (a follower of Deobandi school of thought) while his brother Mr. Dr. Jalal (a follower of Barelvi school of thought) became a witness in blasphemy case against Khan in Khar locality of Fort Munro Dera Ghazi Khan district.

The case was registered on basis of differences between Jalal and his father, Mr. Haji Azad. Jalal, however, denied any family dispute saying it was a religious matter and Khan and Mr. Moulvi Idrees had used blasphemous language a sacred personalities.

Complainant Mr. Khizar Abbas Attari lodged an FIR of the incident against Noor and Idrees. The police quashed the blasphemy FIR after investigators said the suspects were innocent. After investigation, the court also quashed the case due to family difference.

Dawn Feb. 9, 2011

4. Muhammad Javed: Bhakkar

Mr. Shahnawaz of Dullewala, district Bhakkar, lodged an FIR against Mr. Muhammad Javed on January 17, 2011 stating that he received some text messages from an unknown cell number on January 10, 2011 that contained blasphemous remarks.

Police seized Javed's cell phone and found blasphemous messages in it. Javed moved a local court for interim bail that he was granted. However, Javed told the police the cell number that received the messages was owned by his estranged friend Mr. Farooq Azam and it never remained in use of Shahnawaz. Javed said friendship with Azam went sour because of petty differences. He said on the day of the incident Azam called him by his cell phone and requested a meeting at a teashop. During the meeting, Azam sought his cell phone to make a call, saying that his phone's battery was not charged. He said Azam went away from him "to make a call",

returned his phone to him minutes later and left the place in a hurry.

Police released Javed after two weeks of custody on February 22, 2011 and booked Azam under the allegations he leveled against Javed. Azam moved the court for his interim bail, which he was granted. Complainant Shahnawaz said he is satisfied with the police investigations wherein Javed was declared innocent. Police have cleared Shahnawaz from this bogus case of blasphemy. DSP Circle Mr. Sher Bahadur Niazi said the only thing Javed could do against Shahnawaz was he can move a court against him. Niazi's statement implied that police cannot take any action against Shahnawaz. Shahnawaz reportedly was an activist of a banned outfit and police did not want to annoy his patron organization.

Dawn February 26, 2011

5. Marvi Sirmed: Islamabad

Senator Mr. Humayun Mandokhel discussed activist Ms. Marvi Sirmed in the Senate, who had invited him to Mr. Salmaan Taseer's Chehlum (40th day after death) and used the word 'shaheed' (martyr) to refer to him in a text message, which he disagreed to.

Mandokhel asked to file a privilege motion against Sirmed since their exchange had been reported in the press. According to Sirmed, Jamaat-e-Islami's Senator Mr. Ibrahim also reacted to the word martyr similarly.

The Express Tribune January 31, 2011

6. Government officer threatened of allegations for taking down banners

The Sunni Etihad Council (SIC) said that they will litigate against Lahore District Coordination Officer (DCO) Mr. Ahad Cheema for blasphemy on April 20, 2011. The decision was taken in a meeting of the SIC hierarchy in Lahore. A complaint in this regard will be submitted at a proper forum within two to three days. Blasphemy laws will be invoked for the purported desecration of the Holy Prophet's (PBUH) name inscribed on hoardings, billboards and banners of the organization which were removed on the orders of the DCO from various parts of the city.

Pakistan Today April 24, 2011

7. Ms. Samina Ghurki MNA: Lahore

Hard line clerics from Muslimabad Lahore declared Pakistan People's Party Lahore President Ms. Samina Khalid Ghurki and one of her supporters as blasphemers. The clerics organized a protest demonstration against Ghurki and her supporter Mr. Haji Nasir on July 3, 2011 accusing that they were supporting a Shia cleric, Mr.

Zulfiqar Naqvi who recently delivered a religious sermon and committed blasphemy against the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and his followers. He was called by Nasir.

They blamed local police authorities, for inaction against Naqvi. They further said that they would continue their protest against Ms. Samina until the government took action against them. The clerics stated that all blasphemers deserved death. The clerics demanded registration of cases against Ms. Samina, Nasir and Naqvi.

However, Samina told that she was shocked at hatred campaign against her. She said that she had got nothing to do with the allegations the clerics were leveling against her. She said that she just investigated the matter and came to know that Nasir was one of her supporters in the constituency but she had no frequent contacts with him while Nasir and one of the clerics named Mr. Attiqur Rehman had a property dispute over a 1.5 kanal plot in the same area. She said that Rehman went to the court and local police but after failing to have a decision in his favor, he was now using religion as a tool to settle scores against Nasir. However, she said that it was really absurd to involve her in their personal dispute and she would talk to the people concerned, including the hardline clerics, over the issue.

Daily Times July 5, 2011

8. Tehmina Durrani: Lahore

The Anjuman Talba-e-Islam (ATI) held a protest against Ms. Tehmina Durrani, a writer and ex wife of Governor Mustafa Khar and Chief Minister Mr. Shahbaz Sharif's for writing a book against pirs (respected personalities) titled Blasphemy. Protesters chanted slogans against the writer and called her a foreign agent, illiterate and a fake writer. They also demanded the federal government to cancel Tehmina's citizenship. Blasphemy was inspired by a true story of a woman who was wife of a Pir and got sexually and physically abused during her relationship.

Pakistan Today July 10, 2011

9. Blasphemy allegation: Karachi

Mr. S (name withheld) 25 years old was accused of blasphemy for allegedly burning a copy of the Holy Quran in Karachi. Police arrested him on the eyewitness, Mr. Ali.

A mob soon gathered around the scene and someone called the police. When the police arrived, Ali stepped up and said that he saw S standing near a copy of the Holy Quran that was on fire. No witness had actually seen S set the holy book on fire. S's mother

denied the allegations and said at that time he was serving his grandfather who was ill of mouth cancer. While talking to neighbors The family has always been regarded as religious. "They have pictures of the Kaaba hanging in their house," said one neighbor. "This is a conspiracy against S, said a neighbor, on the condition of anonymity.

However, SHO Mr. Javed Yusufzai said that when he reached the crime scene, many witnesses immediately pointed S out. Moreover, he maintained that a strip of paper was found inside the holy book, mentioning the mouth cancer. The SHO also claimed that they found some objects near the book and when they showed them to "black magic experts" they learnt that they were used to "kill old women". The police said the investigations are under way.

S's mother told that Ali's mother came to see her and said that, "Ali made a big mistake and he should not have done this." S's mother alleged that Ali had a criminal record. It was also learnt that the apartment complex is disputed, each flat was sold to two people and this may be a conspiracy to force S's family out of the house.

The Express Tribune July 5, 2011

10. Respect not insult beard: clerics to move blasphemy case

Thirty Bareilvi (influenced by Shia's Teachings) clerics issued an edict (fatwa) condemning a newspaper advertisement of the Population Welfare Department which they said insulted the beard. The clerics said they would submit an application with police for registration of an FIR under section 295-A of blasphemy laws against the officials responsible for publishing the advertisement. The edict stated that the advertisement offended hundreds of thousands of Muslims. It said the provincial government would be responsible for any unrest in the country in case an FIR was not registered in the case.

The Express Tribune July 13, 2011

4. Updates of cases pending before courts

An application filed by Sindh Industries Minister Mr. Abdul Rauf Siddiqui against former home minister Mr. Zulfiqar Mirza for proceedings under the blasphemy law was dismissed here on February 2, 2012 by an additional district and Sessions judge.

The Express Tribune

Sentenced by Court

1. Muhammad Ishaq: Bahawalpur

Mr. Muhammad Ishaq (35), a black magician, was sentenced to life

imprisonment by a Sessions court of Ahmadpur East, Bahawalpur for burning a copy of holy Quran on January 6, 2011. According to investigation officer ASI Rana Khalid Mahmood, Ishaq was arrested from a mosque in Uch Sharif by area people red-handed on Feb 4, 2010.
Dawn January 7, 2011

2. Muhammad Safdar: Khanewal

Mr. Muhammad Safdar (51) accused of blasphemy by his neighbor, Mr. Muhammad Abdullah, at Kabirwala district Khanewal. He was arrested on October 1, 2010 under section 295-B, PPC.

A dispute between both men's wives became a trap for Safdar by Abdullah who accused Safdar of committing blasphemy. On January 17, 2011 the Additional Sessions judge Kabirwala sentenced Safdar for life imprisonment.
CLAAS

3. Muhammad Yousaf & Muhammad Shahzad: Gujranwala

Mr. Muhammad Yousaf (mentally ill) was accused of burning the Holy Quran while Mr. Muhammad Shahzad (a milk-man) arrested in suspicion as the locals assumed that he was accomplice with Yousaf under section 295-B, PPC. Though Shahzad rushed to stop him and tried to set free the Holy book from the flames on March 24, 2003 in Gujranwala. The district and Sessions judge sentenced both for life imprisonment on January 18, 2011.
CLAAS

4. Rafique: Bahawalpur

Mr. Rafique of Jalalpur Peerwala district Bahawalpur was handed down to death sentence along with Rs.0.2 million fine for committing blasphemy by Session court of Ahmedpur East, Bahawalpur under Sections 295-C and 298-A.

The accused was handed over to the police by shopkeepers after they reportedly caught him with a wooden craft hanging around his neck inscribed with blasphemous remarks against Sihaba, the companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

Dawn February 3, 2011

5. Malik Ashraf: Jhelum

Additional Sessions Judge Mr. Tariq Mehmood Zargham awarded death to Mr. Malik Ashraf who was arrested on the charge of blasphemy from Pinddadan Khan three months ago. According to the prosecution, Ashraf had repeatedly uttered derogatory remarks against revered personalities. A case was registered against the accused under sections 295-C and 298, PPC. The court also imposed a total fine of Rs.110000 on him.
The News March 9, 2011

6. Maqsood: Faisalabad

Anti-terrorism court on April 18, 2011 sentenced to death a Muslim Mr. Maqsood alias Soodi who had gunned down two Christian brothers Sajid and Rashid accused of blasphemy and injuring police inspector, Mr. Muhammad Hussain on July 7, 2010. The court also imposed a fine of Rs. 4 million.

The convict was also sentenced to 10-year imprisonment each under Section 7-C of the ATA and 324 of the PPC and a fine of Rs. 200,000. Under Section 337-D, he will pay Rs. 500,000 (compensation) to the injured inspector and serve a 10-year term.

Dawn April 19, 2011

7. Abdul Sattar: Larkana

Mr. Abdul Sattar (29), resident of Larkana (Sindh), was sentenced to death by an Additional District and Sessions Judge in Talagang Chakwal district on June 21, 2011 for committing blasphemy.

Judge, Mr. Rana Zahoor Ahmad imposed a fine of Rs. 50,000 and sent him to prison in Jhelum. Mohammad Saeed, of Talagang town, had filed a complaint with the city police station on February 5, 2010. He said he had been receiving derogatory text messages and calls from a wrong number for several days. He told police that contents of the messages and conversation of the caller blasphemed Holy Quran, Prophet (PBUH) and Sahabas (companions of the Prophet).

A case was registered and District Police Officer Syed Ali Mohsin set up a special inquiry committee, headed by then Superintendent of Police (Investigation) Malik Matloob.

The committee collected data of calls and text messages sent by a cell number belonging to Abdul Sattar.

"We took permission from the home department for a raid in Larkana and arrested the accused," SP Matloob told Dawn on phone from Rawalpindi. He said Sattar had confessed to have committed the crime. "The accused behaved quite normally when arrested," the SP added

Dawn June 22, 2011

8. Mehram Wahocho: Qamber Shahdkot (Sindh)

Mr. Mehram Wahocho, a Muslim retired school teacher of Kamber Shahdadt district, was jailed for three years on blasphemy charges by a district and Sessions judge on October 13, 2011, after

appealing against a one-month sentence handed down for allegedly insulting the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). Mr. Ameer Ali, a Muslim filed a case with police against Wahocho two years ago.

Wahocho was also ordered to pay a fine of Rs.5000. Following the verdict and sent to Central Jail in Larkana.

The Express Tribune October 18, 2011

Released on Bail

1. Shahid Hassan Sheikh: Lahore

The Lahore High Court on February 10, 2011 granted bail to Mr. Shahid Hassan Sheikh of Batapur Lahore ,accused of blasphemy, who had been in jail for four months. Justice Mr. Muhammad Anwarul Haq ordered him to furnish surety bonds worth Rs.200, 000 for concession of bail.

Sheikh said he was the vice president of the Batapur Ahl-e-Hadith Mosque Committee and had rented out a shop linked to the mosque to Iftikhar. He said Iftikhar implicated him and two of his employees in a false case when he asked for the payment of rent. He said the complainant was from the Barelvi sect and bore him a grudge.

The Express Tribune February 11, 2011

2. Ghulam Haider: Sargodha

Mr. Ghulam Haider accused of blasphemy against companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was released on bail April 6, 2011.

Haider, resident of Kot Momin district Sargodha, was accused of using disrespectful language for Muawiya Ibne Abu Sufiyan. Jamaat Ahle Sunnat in a meeting condemned the fact that he was released on bail.

The Express Tribune April 8, 2011

The Accused Killed

Muhammad Imran Akram: Rawalpindi

Mr. Muhammad Imran, accused of blasphemy, was released along with his friend, Mr. Sajid Mehmood on February 13, 2010. He was gunned down while sitting at a shop in Danda village on the outskirts of Rawalpindi. Both were booked by police in a blasphemy case in April 2009.

Dawn March 5, 2011

Acquittal

Gojra: Court freed all suspects

All 70 people accused of anti-Christian violence in Gojra, on August

1, 2009, were acquitted by the Anti-Terrorism Court in Faisalabad on June 7, 2011.

All the Muslims said to be responsible for attacking Christians that left seven dead, while four churches were destroyed in the carnage following a blasphemy allegation. The Muslims were among a mob of more than 800 people who raided the Christian colony in Gojra.

The acquittal was ordered after the continued absence of witnessed in trial and due to a lack of evidence. Among the 70 people named by the complaint, 68 had already been granted bail before arrest while the remaining two were released on bail June 7, 2011.

The Christian Voice June 12, 2011

Death in Custody

Shaukat Ali: Lahore

Mr. Shaukat Ali (35), a mentally challenged convict of blasphemy in Lahore Camp Jail, died at Services Hospital, Lahore on July 17, 2011.

Minorities' Concern of Pakistan August 2011

Ahmadis Victims

1. Sajeel and his father: Khushab

Mr. Sajeel Ahmed (18) of Khushab was accused of making derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH) in an FIR registered under Section 295-C, PPC.

The complainant is his classmate Mr. Waqas Nadeem who said that Ahmed had tried to convert other students and made remarks that hurt their religious sentiments.

Sajeel's father Mr. Hakim Jameel was accused of describing his son as a Muslim in his school admission form, an offence under Section 298-C of the PPC. The complainant in the case is Mr. Qari Saeed Ahmed who submitted that "the Muslims of Khushab are worried about the increasing number and activities of Quadianis in the city".

Mujahid Ahmed, Sajeel's brother said that Qari Saeed had a long-term dispute with his father over property. He said that Saeed's own son Mr. Jameel, a former teacher of Sajeel, had given police a statement in support of Sajeel. Previously, Jameel had said the charges against them were baseless.

The Express Tribune December 24, 2011

2. Basharat Ahmed: Gujrat

The police registered a case against Mr. Basharat Ahmed, headmaster at Government High Schools Kang Chanan, Gujrat under Section 295-B, PPC. He is accused of defiling the Holy Quran.

Ahmed allegedly snatched Arabic books from students who were cheating during exams at his school and threw the books in a pond. The complainant, Mr. Qari Mazhar Zargar, accused him of defiling Quranic verses written in those books.

Mr. Mubarik Ahmed Chaudhry, the brother of the accused headmaster said that the teachers have all given statements to the police backing my brother. He said that Zargar was being directed by people who had a property dispute with his brother and the case was registered six days after the alleged incident.

Sub-Inspector, Mr. Akhtar Shah, the investigation officer for the case, said that the headmaster had been arrested and investigations were ongoing.

The Express Tribune December 24, 2011

Allegation

1. Muhammad Ahmad Bhatti: Nawabshah

Mr. Muhammad Ahmad Bhatti, an Ahmadi, used to sell watches and small electrical gadgets on a cart in Nawabshah. On October 1, 2011 a boy came to his cart and picked up a piece of newspaper lying on the ground near his cart on which some verses of the Holy Quran were written. He accused Bhatti that he had desecrated these verses of the Holy Quran.

[
On creating hue and cry by the youth, in a short while a lot of people gathered and accused him of blasphemy. People attacked him but he managed to escape and went home. Bhatti's younger brother was attending his cart in the afternoon when the police came and detained him. Later, the provoked mob set Mr. Bhatti's cart on fire. All his valuable merchandise was destroyed depriving him of livelihood. Mr. Bhatti is now unable to make a living in Nawab Shah.

Ahmadi community report

2. Rabia: Lahore

Ms. Rabia, an Ahmadi, was a student in the Comsat College in Lahore. She saw a hurtful anti-Ahmadiyya poster in the premises, and tore it up in November 22, 2011. The anti-Ahmadi got flared up and stirred up trouble. The college administration took her in custody. The crowd demanded that she should be handed over to

them register a criminal case against Rabia. The next day, the community advised all the Ahmadi girls to miss the college.

Ahmadi community

A Woman burnt Quran: Rahimyar Khan

An unidentified woman in Rahimyar Khan was reported in Daily Jinnah (local Urdu newspaper) as having burnt the Quran. The police was convinced that the woman was insane but the people were agitating and were dangerous for the safety of the mad woman after which the police took the woman into custody.

Friday Times May 13, 2011

Ashraf Hussain: Haripur

Mr. Ashraf Hussain (name changed), the son of the mosque's caretaker, set some pages of the Holy Quran on fire. The police quoted Syed Ahmed Shah as saying that he went to a mosque to offer prayers when he saw Ashraf Hussain, the son of the mosque's caretaker, setting some pages of the Quran on fire. Shah tried to stop Hussain but failed to do, upon which he informed the police, who arrested the man alleged of the act.

According to the police, the pages were in shambles which was the reason he was burning them. However, the police registered a case against Hussain under Section 295-B of PPC.

Neighbors said Hussain's father had been fired from his service a few months back as the mosque committee found his mental condition to be deteriorating. However, a few days later, he returned to the mosque on his own and took its charge.

The Express Tribune, Nov. 4, 2011

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Blasphemy Laws

Christian Victims

1. Saira Khokhar: Lahore

Ms. Saira Khokhar, a Christian Principal of a school was accused of committing blasphemy on February 23, 2012 in Lahore. She was teaching at the Citizens Foundation School, Badian Road, Lahore.

A mob gathered around the school after the rumor broke out, police took her into custody for investigation. The mob came to the police station, demanding that she be handed over to them. The special advisor to the Prime Minister on minority affairs intervened and her safety was ensured. She was released after the investigation.

NCJP

2. Joshua John: Sialkot

Mr. Joshua John, a pastor, faced allegations of blasphemy by a Muslim cleric due to quoted the Quranic verses in his sermon on May 24, 2012 in Sialkot district.

During the sermon at the local church of village Data Jutt, John was comparing the teachings of the Quran and the Bible on Jesus. Upon which, local Muslims were infuriated and disrupted the prayer service. However, at the time of agitation, pastor escaped from the church. They used abusive language against pastor and also threatened to kill him.

Due to pressure growing on police to register an FIR against John by a crowd of Muslims, police arrested him and kept in the police station in Qila Kalar Wala, Tehsil Pasroor, district Sialkot along with his son and church's elder Mr. Saleem Masih. Later, police released them on 25th May after signing a document of apologizing to the clerics. No charges were brought against him. He is now at a safe place.

CLAAS

3. Shamim Bibi: Bahawalnagar

Ms. Shamim Bibi (26), resident of Chak No. 170/7R, Bahawalnagar District, was arrested under Section 295-C of PPC on February 28, 2012, on complaint of her Muslim neighbors who accused her of defiling name of Prophet Mohammad. According to her husband Mr. Bashir, she was implicated on false accusation of blasphemy.

Her family told that she was accused on resisting the pressure to become a Muslim four days before her arrest. Her three relatives/neighbors had converted to Islam recently, they urged her to do so the same. On refusing, her neighbors accused her of making derogatory remarks against Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

A local prayer leader, Mr. Ansar Ali Shah, claimed that Shamim's neighbours, Mr. Hamad Ahmad Hashmi, Mr. Abdul Qayyum and other Muslims told him that they had heard the Christian woman making derogatory remarks about Muhammad in her courtyard, according to FIR No. 30/12. But the FIR does not clearly state what exactly Shamim said. On the other hand, the complaints were not present at the time of alleged incident. She was released on bail on November 4, 2012. **NCJP**

4. Pervez Bashir: Sargodha

Mr. Pervez Bashir (29), Principal of a reputed private school in Bhalwal, district Sargodha, was alleged of blasphemy by Vice Principal Ms. Sadia and Mr. Imran, a senior teacher. They also accused Bashir of allowing a cultural-dance in the school function which they portrayed as un-Islamic.

On March 28, 2012, they involved parents and argued with management of School, blaming them of protecting the Christians. In order to save their skin, the management asked Bashir to tender resignation. However public and administration was yet to be satisfied.

On 3 May, 2012 NCJP was able to bring 40 Muslims including clerics from different sects together for meeting at Markazi Jameia Masjid Bhalwal. As they agreed that allegation was baseless and Bashir was accused of belonging to a Christian faith and professional jealousy, they assured that they will not support the case, however an announcement was made in the mosque, and they suggested Pervez to leave his job and the city. **NCJP**

5. Sajid Masih: Sheikhpura

Mr. Sajad Masih S/o Inayat Masih (20), of Sadiqabad/Farooqbad was accused of burning the pages with Quranic verses under section 295-B of PPC on May 18, 2012.

The complainant Mr. Muhammad Sharullah-Zaman filed an application with the police stating that Sajid Masih burned the pages with Quranic text which were in the box placed by the Tehreek-e-Nafazey Shariat Muhammadi. Muslims clerics gathered in large

number at the police station and demanded the police to hand over the accused to them.

Later, police lodged an FIR against Sajid and sent him to the Central jail Sheikhpura. During the investigation the accused was found innocent, however released by court. **NCJP**

6. Ramzan Masih: Sheikhpura

Mr. Ramzan Masih (25) S/o Chiragh Masih, a mentally retarded and resident of Sukheki, Hafizabad District, was accused of committing blasphemy under section 295-C, FIR # 202/12 was registered on the complaint of banned Islamic group of Sipha-e-Sahaba on June 9, 2012.

Mr. Manzoor Masih told that the accused was converted to Islam by the Islamist group Sipah Sahaba two years ago. He was not in his senses when they converted him and got his thumb impressions, now they have accused him of blasphemy to grab lands through him. The court later dismissed the case against Ramzan. **NCJP**

7. Jamil Masih: Sheikhpura

Mr. Jamil Masih (45) was accused of blasphemy on the complaint of his neighbor on April 1, 2012 in Basti Balochan, Sheikhpura.

Jamil an employee of Wapda stopped Mr. Munir Ahmad from starring a Christian girl. Meanwhile, Ahmad instigated some against him that he used foul language for Islam. The Muslim group agitated to lodge an FIR against Masih. Until the completion of an investigation, SHO did not register the case. SHO forwarded the case to United Peace Council's president Mr. Abdul Rehman Aziz who cleared Masih of the charges and released him. **NCJP**

8. Rimsha Masih: Islamabad

Ms. Rimsha Masih (14), of Meherabad, Islamabad, was arrested under Section 295-B of PPC alleged by an Imam, Mr. Khalid Jadoon Chisti (prayer leader of Mehraabad Jaffer mosque), and the testimony of three people on August 18, 2012.

According to some Muslims living in Meherabad, After threats from Muslims to burn homes of Christians living in Meherabad, the Christian residents fled from area for safe places. Police took her into custody and registered FIR No. 303/12 and sent her to Jail.

A solution to the case began to emerge when the three witnesses who accused her revealed that they had been driven by the imam to

do so, with the secret plan to oust Christian families from the village and take possession of their property.

Primarily due to lack of evidence, but because during the investigation police discovered that the Imam, Mr. Khalid Jadoon Chisti had forged the evidence to make the case against Rimsha.

High Court judge Mr. Iqbal Hameed ur Rehman of Islamabad ordered to dismiss the charges of blasphemy against Rimsha on November 20, 2012.

The cleric, Chishti was later arrested for planting pages from the Quran in a bag on September 1, 2012. The District and Sessions judge Islamabad Mr. Raja Jawad Abbas granted his release on bail on October 11, 2012 to Khalid Jadoon.

The Express Tribune/ Dawn

9. Ryan Brian Patras: Karachi

Mr. Ryan Brian Patras (16), a Christian, charged under the section of 295-C, PPC after allegedly sending blasphemous text messages to his Muslim friends in Karachi on October 10, 2012. A case was registered bearing FIR No 432/2012 against him.

Later, Brian explained that one of his Muslim friends had borrowed his phone for a call. The family was living at Sui Southern Gas Company Limited (SSGCL) staff colony as his mother Ms. Rubina was serving in the company as a Superintendant. His was the only Christian family. SSGC's issued a suspension letter soon after her son was accused of sending a blasphemous text message.

The following day, a Muslim mob ransacked the boy's home and set the household furniture, etc. on fire. A police team reached to the scene and calmed the mob down, saved the house from further damage.

The police officials have varying opinions regarding the case, as one of them claimed that it is suspected the incident was the culmination of a quarrel between SSGCL administration and Rubina, and that some officials in the administration wanted the family to leave the colony. Now the accused boy and his family have gone into hiding.

NCJP/The Express Tribune

10. Karam Din: Nankana Sahib

Pastor Karam Din (60), resident of Badoomali Tehsil Sangla Nankana Sahib District, accused of blasphemy under section 295-A

due to his statement concerning the meat of sacrifice of Eid ul Azha on October 15, 2012.

During his sermon, the words he used to explain regarding to eat the sacrifice meat were abusive. On hearing these words, a passer-by Mr. Zulqarnain Ali Shah along with Mr. Azam and Mr. Muhammad Asif rushed towards the Din to kill him. But he ran away from the scene.

On the same day, Shah filed an application against Din, and he was arrested under 295-A, FIR#19/12 on October 16. He is now in Central Jail, Sheikhpura. The Christians of the respective area were gone into hiding due to threats. **NCJP**

Muslim Blasphemy Victim

1. Five Muslim Men: Kotri (Sindh)

Mr. Abid Hussain, Mr. Mohammad Hussain, Mr. Tasawar Hussain, Mr. Asghar Abbas and Mr. Mirza Hussain were arrested on January 17, 2012 for allegedly using offensive language against the Companions (Sahaba) of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

According to the officer on-duty, Mr. Mohammad Ashraf, the men wrote derogatory remarks on the walls of six bogies of Sukkur Express when it was at Kotri. All men were brought to Karachi and arrested. According to the police, a score of members of the Ahle Sunnat Waljamaat gathered at Cantt Railway Station and staged a sit-in. The Cantt police handed the men over to the Kotri police.

Express Tribune, January 18, 2012

2. Iftikhar Ali: Okara

Mr. Iftikhar Ali, a Shia Muslim, was accused of blasphemy for using foul language against the three Caliphs of Islam and the companions of Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH). Ali was arrested from Lahore following a complaint from a local resident in Okara District. Ali denied the charge. **Ahmadiyya times April 5 2012**

3. Imran: Faisalabad

Mr. Imran, a mentally challenged, person was accused of defiling pages of Holy Quran at a mosque near Toba-Gojra Road April 22, 2012.

Mian Muhammad Akram (SHO) said the suspect denied having burned any page of the Holy Quran. He quoted Imran as saying that he burnt some worn out papers he collected from a mosque while cleaning the shelves. But, he added, he had no idea that the pages

came out of the Holy Quran.

An FIR was registered against him under section 295-B of PPC. Earlier, he was detained by dozens of people who gathered on the Toba-Gojra Road following announcements from loudspeakers of several mosques in the locality. He was handed over to the police on the assurance that appropriate action would be taken against him.

The arrest followed a violent demonstration near Jani Wala railway station. The protesters blocked the road for four hours but dispersed after baton charge and tear-gas shelling by the police.

The Express Tribune, April 24, 2012

4. Sheikh Asif: Lodhran

Mr. Sheikh Asif (25), a mentally challenged, arrested by District police on the charge that he claimed to be a Prophet under Section 295-C, PPC. Mr. Rana Khalid (SHO) said Asif, who is a resident of Diyanapura, was taken into protective custody due to life threats by his neighbors. Later, an FIR was registered on a complaint filed by a prayer leader.

His uncle Mr. Sheikh Abdul Kareem said they consulted several doctors who advised the family to restrict his movements. Another relative said his mental condition deteriorated since meeting a Pir (faith healer) in Multan, practicing black magic. He said instead of accusing Asif of blasphemy he should be admitted to a mental hospital.

The Express Tribune, January 9, 2012

5. Muhammad Saleem: Karachi

Mr. Muhammad Saleem was arrested on June 18, 2012 in North Nazimabad, Block-N, Karachi for allegedly desecrating by torching a copy of the Holy Quran on the complaint of his neighbors. The police arrested him on the complaint of some locals and lodged an FIR # 311/12 under Section 295/B.

Saleem is also believed to be using drugs. He was produced before a Judicial Magistrate. The Judge, Mr. Nasrullah Korai, sent him to prison on judicial remand till June 28 and directed the investigation officer to complete the investigation and submit a charge-sheet on the next hearing.

Meanwhile, a group of lawyers attempted to attack the suspect following his production in court but the policemen foiled the attack and took the suspect away safely. Following his arrest, a mob tried to barge into the Temuria police station to get hold of the suspect so

that they could lynch him, but the police dispersed the crowd using teargas.

Dawn June, 19, 2012

6. Faryad Ali: Faisalabad

Mr. Faryad Ali (45) was accused of uttering derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH). The police registered a case on July 8, 2012 on the complaint of Mr. Abdus Sattar under section 295-C of PPC.

Ali was caught by some people and severely tortured. On information, Deputy Superintendent Mr. Chaudhry Ashiq Jatt and Superintendent Mr. Zahid Mehmood Gondal reached the spot and pacified the protesters by promising action against the accused in accordance with the law.

The investigation officer told the court that since the accused admitted to the crime there was no room for further interrogation and he should be sent to jail. Police was directed to complete the investigation and a charge-sheet within 14 days so that a formal trial of the case could be initiated.

The Express Tribune, July 3, 2012

7. Ghulam Abbas: Bahawalpur

Mr. Ghulam Abbas, a mentally handicapped and homeless, was accused of burning a Quran lynched by a baying mob in the town of Channigoth in Bahawalpur on July 4, 2012.

Local police detained Abbas whose address was not known but before the police could investigate, a group of more than a thousand gathered outside the police station demanding that police kill the suspect there and then. The group attacked and eventually dragged the man out of the station and beat him to death. Witnesses said people poured petrol on his dead body and set him on fire.

BBC Urdu

8. Asim Farooqi and Arfa Iftikhar: Lahore

Mr. Asim Farooqi (77), an owner and Principal of Farooqi Girls High School and Ms. Arfa Iftikhar a teacher of the same school, Shafiqabad, Lahore, were accused of blasphemy under section 295-C on November 2, 2012. The police registered FIR under Section 295-C, PPC against the owner and Arfa.

Ms. Arfa reportedly gave students a questionnaire for homework, which had insulting remarks against Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Police arrested Farooqi while Arfa went into hiding after a furious

mob stormed the school. The rooms, furniture and fixture of the schools were immediately set on fire.

The school management subsequently published front page adverts in two leading newspapers, denying the alleged insults. A lower court early refused bail and remanded Farooqi in custody for 14 days despite that he had no direct part in the incident. Farooqi was released after the Lahore High Court granted him bail against Rs 200,000 surety on November 14, 2012. **The Express Tribune**

9. Shia community accused of blasphemy: Multan

An FIR was lodged against 150 unidentified and 72 nominated members of the Shia community on November 25, 2012 for committing blasphemy during a scuffle between the participants of Shia ritualistic procession of mourners. The scuffle left at least 10 people injured.

DPO Mr. Rai Ijaz suspended Abdul Hakeem (SHO) Mr. Zakir Gujjar for not taking action and ordered the concerned police officials to start an inquiry against him. The FIR under Sections 295-A, 337-L2, 337-A1 and A2, 436, 427, 148 and 149 was registered on the complaint of Mr. Abdul Haadi Usman who said that mourners passing through the area threw stones at banners with the Prophet (PBUH)'s name inscribed on them. He said they did this when they were stopped from passing through the area which he said, was not part of the traditional route plan for the Moharram processions.

The Express tribune, November 27, 2012

10. Sheikh Iftikhar Ahmad: Islamabad

Professor Dr. Sheikh Iftikhar Ahmad, resident of Islamabad, was arrested for writing a book on the complaint of his nephew Mr. Sheikh Usman Rashid on November 9, 2012.

The police referred the complaint to Legal Branch for opinion, however people belonging to a religious sect surrounded the Police Station and demanded lodging of an FIR against the accused under blasphemy law. The protesters blocked road to force the police to register a case. Finally FIR No. 466 under Section 295-C, PPC was registered and the accused was arrested.

Police said that the accused completed his PhD from United States and opted profession of teaching and worked at different Universities in the USA. He was also President of American Research Association. He returned to Pakistan five years ago, but couldn't go back to America due to serious illness.

The police shifted Ahmad to an unknown place for investigation and appointed SP as inquiry officer, adding that the accused would be produced before the court of law today on December 10, 2012 for obtaining his physical remand.

The News December 10, 2012

Ahmadi Victims

1. Inayatullah Sabri and son: Mandi Bahaudin

Mr. Inayatullah Sabri and his son Mr. Amir Shehzad were charged under section 298-C, PPC on February 3, 2012 under mob pressure in Phalia near Mandi Bahaudin.

According to the Ahmadi community, a fabricated case was pushed against the two accusing they tried to preach someone about their faith Ahmadi. The allegations also included a claim that Ahmadis offered one-million Pak Rupees to those who would convert to Ahmadi beliefs.

Ahmadiyya Times, February 8, 2012

2. Muhammad Ashraf: Sargodha

Mr. Muhammad Ashraf, a jeweler in Silanwali, Sargodha was charged for putting up a translation of Quranic text in his shop and booked under Section 298-C on July 23, 2012.

Ashraf was earlier charged along with his co-worker in 2009 of 'posing as Muslim' on the complaint of Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Imran. He was sent to Central jail Sargodha on July 24, 2012 and was released on bail on July 31, 2012.

Ahmadiyya Times August 7, 2012

3. Syeda Tasneem Kausar and Rubina Jabeen: Lahore

Ms. Syeda Tasneem Kausar (55) an Ahmadi, and faculty member of Post-Graduate College of Nursing, Lahore, was alleged of preaching Ahmadi faith while her best friend Ms. Rubina Jabeen (52) a Sunni Muslim was also charged of supporting Kausar on the complaint of a nursing student Ms. Sumera Naz (30).

According to reports the complainant, Ms. Naz, was revengeful and against the complainant. Naz gave an application and falsely accused that Jabeen along with Kausar were Ahmadis by faith and preaching their faith during lectures as well as distributing literature among students and convincing students to convert.

On May 31, 2012, FIR No. 488/2012 under section 295-A and 298-

C, PPC was registered at the Civil Lines Police Station, Lahore against Jabeen and Kausar, without an inquiry.

Pakistan Today, May 29, 2012

Sentenced by Court

1. Sufi Muhammad Ishaq: Chakwal

Mr. Sufi Mohammad Ishaq, a cleric was sentenced to death and ten years imprisonment and fined Rs. 200,000 for blasphemy under sections 295-A and C by Additional Sessions judge of Jhelum Mr. Chaudhry Mumtaz Hussain on January 30, 2012. Allegations were brought by rival clerics, who reportedly viewed Shaq's followers treating him like a Prophet.

Sources told that Ishaq had been appointed successor of Mr. Afzal Shah the Per of the Shrine. This infuriated complainant Mr. Sanaullah who belonged to Per Afzal Shah's family and he made an excuse to register the blasphemy case against Ishaq.

Dawn, January 31, 2012

2. Hazrat Ali Shah: Chital

Mr. Hazrat Ali Shah was awarded death sentences under sections 295-A, B and C along with a fine Rs.100, 000 by Additional Sessions Judge Mr. Zahra Ali Khan in Chital. Shah supposedly uttered something blasphemous against the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in March 2011.

The Express Tribune, November 15, 2012

3. Naseem Ahmed

On March 14, 2012, Naseem Ahmed, a 42-year-old father of three, was convicted for desecrating the Quran and sentenced to life imprisonment. Ahmed claims that when he set a stock of school books on fire, he had no idea that the Quran was in the pile. A neighbor overheard Ahmed being admonished and called the police.

www.humanrightsfirst.org

Death in custody: Lahore

Mr. Nadeem (22), an accused of burning a copy of Holy Quran, died in the protective custody reportedly due to serious illness at Warburton police station, Nankana Sahib. No case was registered against him.

He was detained without an FIR by the Nankana Sahib police on December 2, 2012, though he was cleared by a local committee of Ulema and there was no proof to suggest the youth burnt Holy Quran. He was reportedly tortured by local resident when they

allegedly discovered him burning a copy of Holy Quran.

The Express Tribune, December 3, 2012

Lynched in front of police: Dadu

An unidentified man was burnt to death right in front of the police inside the local police station for allegedly desecrating Holy Quran in Dadu district of Sindh on December 21, 2012.

He was accused of burning copies of the Holy Quran at Memon mosque in Seeta village. According to the prayer leader of the mosque, Mr. Usman Memon, the man appeared to be a traveler who stayed at the mosque for a night. The man offered Isha prayers on December 20, 2012 and spent the night here. When worshippers came to the mosque for morning prayers, they found charred copies of the Holy Quran.

The worshippers suspected the unidentified lodger was responsible for the desecration since he was alone at the mosque. Memon said that he handed him over to the police and had lodged an FIR against him.

The Express Tribune December 22, 2012

Update: A Press owner: Karachi

A District and Sessions court turned down the acquittal appeals of two suspects allegedly involved in printing and binding sacrilegious material in July, 2011.

First the judge South, Mr. Shahid Hussain Chandio, disposed off two applications for acquittal, stating that the material available with the prosecution showed that the "charges were not groundless".

In the FIR (181/11), the complainant, Mr. Muhammad Akram, alleged that on July 29, 2011, he was passing through a market where he saw some books with presumptive sketches of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), his companions and Prophet Ibrahim (ah).

The complainant and some other people gathered on the spot and handed over two suspects to the police, who were taken to the Police Station and booked under section 295-A and 295-C.

Police claim that the suspects had confessed to their involvement in printing and binding the content during interrogation. On August 8, 2011, after the complainant informed police that few printing plates carrying blasphemous images were lying at a printing press, which were seized.

The lawyers of both suspects contended that they were innocent and had not committed the offence. They further argued that there was no direct evidence against them. The charges against them were groundless.

The Deputy District Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the state vehemently opposed the bail applications on the ground that the men were arrested on the spot and sacrilegious books were seized from them. The men did not challenge the allegations or the sections mentioned in the FIR, he argued. "In these circumstances, find no merit in both applications," stated the judge while dismissing the acquittal applications after hearing the counsel.

The Express Tribune, October 20, 2012

Arrest warrants issued for SHO and ASI

An Additional District and Sessions Judge Mr. Syed Ali Imran issued non-bailable arrest warrants for the Shahdra Town policemen for ignoring show cause notices. The judge directed the Superintendent of police concerned to arrest them and produce them in court on December 1, 2012.

The police officials had failed to implement court orders to produce the witnesses in a blasphemy case on several occasions. The judge then issued show cause notices to the SHO and the ASI, but they did not respond again.

Khurram Masih and Rasheed Masih were alleged of burning pages of the Holy Quran on December 5, 2011. Their neighbors allegedly saw them and raised a hue and cry in the neighborhood. The accused were arrested. **The Express Tribune, November 28, 2012**

Graphical Representation of Data

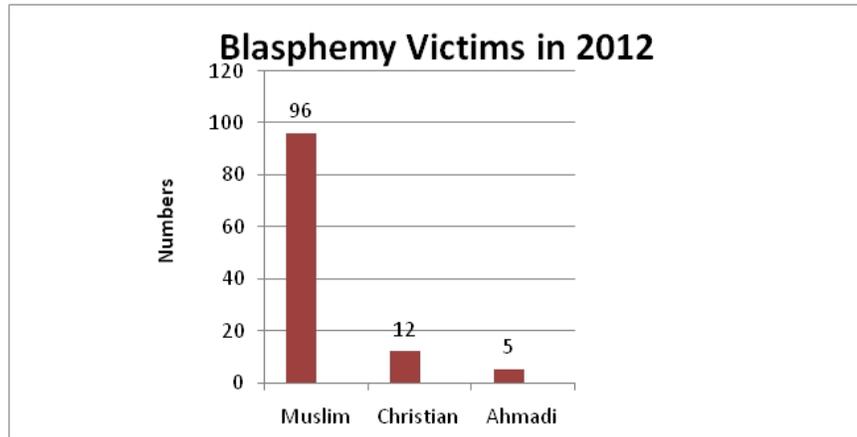


Figure 7 (For Detail See Annex No.1)

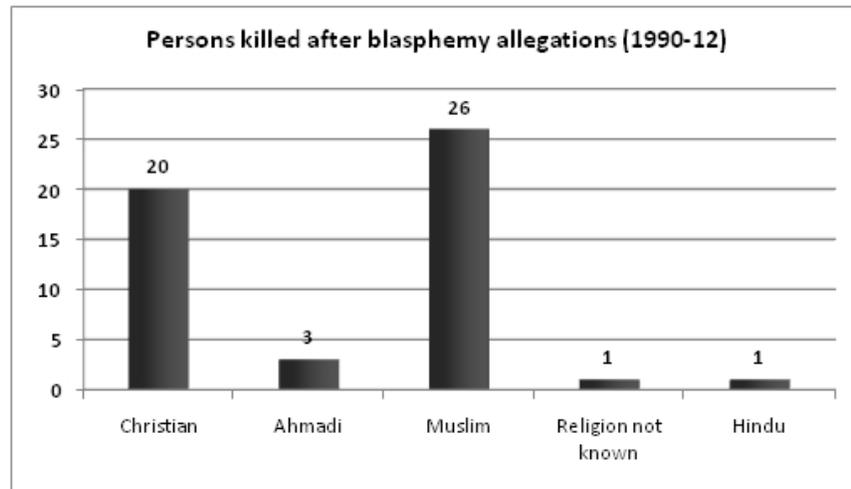


Figure 8 (For Detail See Annex No.2)

Table 8 (For Detail See Annex 2)

Top 20 cities in blasphemy allegations (1987-12)

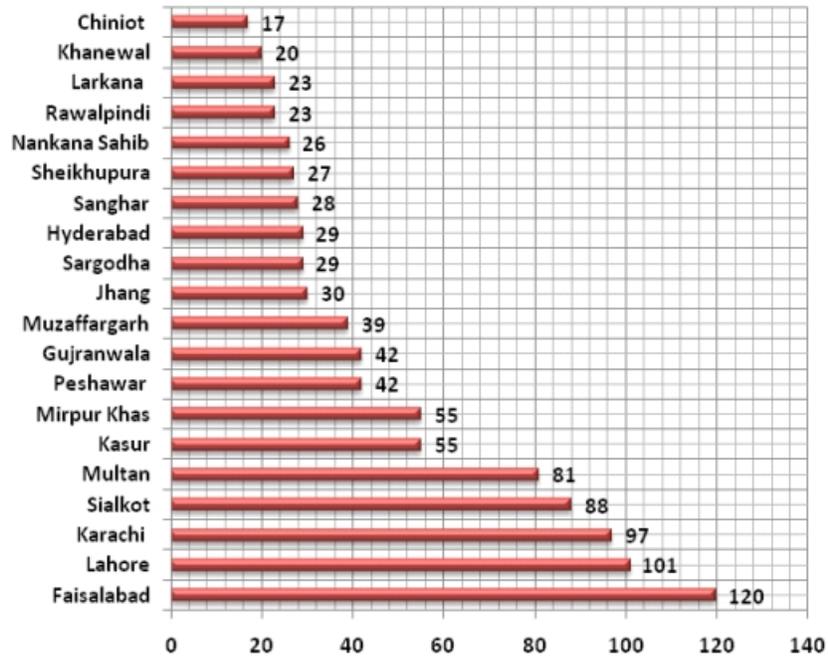


Figure 9 (For Detail See Annex No.3)

Blasphemy Victims (Province Wise) 1987-12

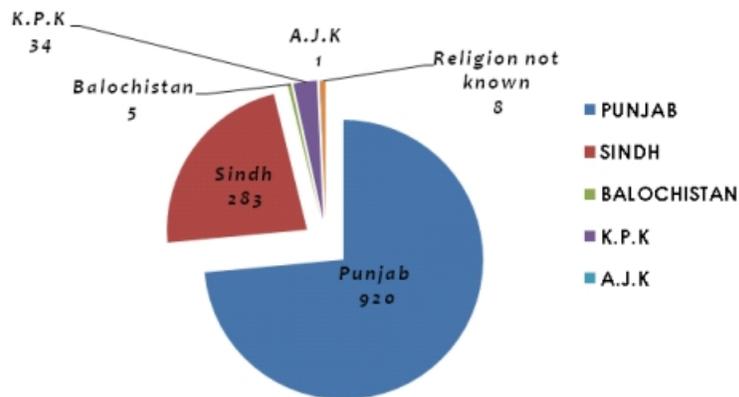


Figure 10 (For Detail See Annex No.3)

Chapter 7

Recommendations of Judicial Inquiry Commission on Gojra Korian

(The recommendatory part from Pg 198-227)

....The unfortunate incidents of Gojra must be taken seriously and the needful be done on war footing without any further loss of time. On the basis of the discussion made and findings recorded in the preceding chapters of this report, the following recommendations are being made:

1. Action against the persons who have been held responsible for commissions and omissions. It is recommended that the persons who having been held responsible for commissions and omission paving way to happening of the incident dated 01-08-2009 be proceeded against under the law without any discrimination.

Establishment of Intelligence & Crime

Investigation Branches: Article 8 of Police Order 2002 provides that the police establishment constituted under Art. 7 shall as far as practicable, be organized on functional basis into Branches, Divisions, Bureaus and Sections. Art. 8 (2) (b) (i) *ibid* provide for establishment of Intelligence and Crime prevention Branches which till now have not been established by the Government. Therefore, police in discharge of their duties have to fall back upon other sources. It is, therefore, recommended that, the said Branches be established immediately because doing so would make police more affective in preventing commission of crimes and maintaining law & order.

III: Framing of Rules: The Rules of carrying into effect the provisions of Police Order 2002 as required under Art. 112 (*ibid*) have not yet been framed which omission is obviously creating hurdles in getting fruits of the said legislation. Hence, it is recommended that the Rules be framed without any loss of time.

IV: Exclusion of role of Zila Nazim: Existing legal position makes Zila Nazim and police responsible for maintaining Law & Order, However, Zila Nazim may not be a fit person to deal with such a

sensitive subject. It is, therefore, recommended that by introducing necessary amendments in the relevant provisions role of Zila Nazim be excluded and the Administration should work with the police to maintain Law & Order.

V: Constitution of District Religious Dispute Resolution Board:

There is no forum established by the Government for resolution of religious or sectarian disputes amicably at any level., If, a Board having representation of all religious communities & religious sects of the respective areas of the District is established then the religious or sectarian disputes would be scrutinized and decided to a considerable extent at that level. It will be worth mentioning that handling of religious and sectarian disputes by law enforcing agencies and the courts do not satisfy the stake holders. When representative of all the stake holders would be part of the Board then, the decision taken by the Board would definitely provide more satisfaction to them. The District Religious Dispute Resolution Board should have its permanent members i.e. DCO (Chairman), DPO (Member), District Attorney (Member) and any other officer of the District which the Government deems fit. It is recommended that necessary amendments in Police Order 2002 be made for establishment of District Religious Dispute Resolution Board and to prescribe scope of its functions.

VI: Amending of substantive law i.e. Chapter XV PPC, the relevant provisions of Cr.P.C i.e. Ss 196 & 196-B and Police Order 2002: It is the paramount consideration of all societies to have peace, harmony and cohesion among its members. The state have always endeavored through the Parliament, the Executive and the Judiciary to achieve the said objects for which, the laws are legislated, interpreted and enforced. Heterogeneity of needs, persuasions and problems of the individual members of every society require variety of legislations, therefore, we find different laws on the same subjects in the World, despite that it has been a longing desire of the communities of the world to have common Codes as far as possible but the ground realities of its different parts never let them to succeed and they could only invent some Charters dealing with a few commonalities.....

...The provisions of Article 20 of the Constitution (Pakistan) are analogous to the provisions contained in Article 16 of the Covenant of Human Rights, It proclaims constitutional safe guards to every citizen so as to establish maintain and manage religious institutions in accordance with the religious belief of the denomination or sect

concerned. This right embraces two concepts: i.e. freedom to believe and freedom to act. As far as freedom to believe is concerned, it is absolute. But freedom to act is subject to restrictions imposed by law, public order and morality. So far as religious beliefs are held, professed and practiced in private, no question of public disorder can arise but when so is done by denunciation of other religions, they are bound to clash with rights of others and thus lead to breach of peace. Therefore, the practice and propagation of religions is made subject to law mandating the right of freedom to propagate religion to be exercised subject requirement of public order and safety and does not let it extend to the doing of acts which are crime. In fact, religious freedom does not include such conduct which violates the law, offends public morals or interferes with legitimate exercise of the public power for the protection of public safety etc.

Like other countries, Pakistan too has substantive as well as procedural law to deal with the offences relating to religion. The substantive law is contained in Chapter XV of Pakistan Penal Code 1860. .. (10 sections and subsection from 295 to 298C)

As far as the provisions protecting religious rights and sentiments of Muslims Sections 295-B, 298-A, 298-B and 298-C (For details on Blasphemy Law See Annex 4) are concerned, the punishments provided under the same are by way of Tazir (Physical punishment in Islamic Law). Such a law can at any time be enacted to achieve its noble object of keeping peace harmony among its subjects.

According to Article 25 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, equality before law is guaranteed to every citizen of Pakistan. Therefore, there is no harm to revisit the provisions of Chapter XV PPC after achieving consensus of Mujtahideen (Islamic Scholar) of all Muslim's schools of thought on the following points:

- A.** Whether defiling of other revealed books is punishable and what is its extent according to;
- B.** Whether, defiling or uttering of derogatory remarks in respect of other Holy Prophets and Apostles (PBUH) other than Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) is punishable and what is its extent?
- C.** Whether, defiling or uttering of derogatory remarks in respect of Holy Personages of religious communities other than of Muslims is punishable and what is its extent?
- D.** Whether, misuse of epithet, descriptions and titles etc. reserved for Holy personages or places of other religious

communities other than of Muslims is punishable and what is its extent?

- E.** Whether, calling himself as member of one religious community or preaching or propagating faith of that community without being recognized as subject of that religious community is punishable and what is its extent?

It is recommended that the above mentioned questionnaire be sent to the Council of Islamic Ideology and Mujtahideen of all Muslim's school of thought to obtain their answers whereafter necessary amendments be made in the provisions i.e. 295-B, 295-C 298-A, 298-B and 298-C PPC protecting the rights of all religious communities, if deduced from the answers....Such misuse can easily be avoided by introducing another provision in Chapter XV PPC providing the same punishment for the complainant if he fails in his complaint. It is, therefore, recommended that the Parliament should consider this view and insert an appropriate provision.

Although, sections 295-B, 295-C, 298-A, 298-B and 298-C were inserted in PPC but no safety valve for avoiding misuse of the same was provided in the relevant provisions of Procedural law i.e. section 196 & 196-B Cr.P.C. Misuse of the said provisions of substantive law can be avoided if, adequate amendments are made in sections 196 & 196-B Cr.P.C. which now read as under:

196. Prosecution for offences against the state: No Court shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under Chapter VI or IX-A of the Pakistan Penal Code..... (except section 127), or punishable under Section 108-A, or Section 153-A or Sec294-A, or Section 505 of the same Code, unless upon complaint made by order of or under authority from, the Federal Government or the Provincial Government concerned, or some officer empowered in this behalf by either of the two Governments.

196-B Preliminary inquiry in certain cases: In the case of any offence in respect of which the provisions of Sections 196 or Section 196-A apply, [officer in-charge of the investigation in the district]

Now, if the words 'section 295-A' are deleted and the words 'Chapter XV PPC' are inserted in section196 Cr.P.C and a proviso is added to the following effect:

“Provided that in case of the offences under Chapter XV PPC, the complaint will be filed by 'District Religious Dispute Resolution

Board' instead by order or under authority from the Central Government or the Provincial Government concerned or some officer empowered in this behalf by either of the two Governments”,

And in section 196-B Cr.P.C, a proviso is also added to the following effect'

“Provided that in case of the offences under Chapter XV PPC, preliminary investigation shall be conducted by District Religious Dispute Resolution Board instead by a police officer not being below the rank of Inspector in which case such police officer shall have the power in section 155, sub-section (3)”

..It would definitely serve as a safety valve to diminish probability of misuse of the provisions of Chapter XV PPC and would also save the innocent person from the clutches of law without there being prima facie (at first appearance) case against them.

VII: Mandating Federal Intelligence Agencies to provide first hand information at Divisional level: It has been noticed during Inquiry that the Federal Intelligence Agencies on collection of information send it to their hierarchy and do not share the same at District or Divisional level. Maintenance of law & Order is headache of the Provincial Government concerned. The information collected by Federal Intelligence Agencies has to pass through a long route to reach the Provincial Government as well as to the Law Enforcing Agencies at local level. The emergencies like time & tide wait for none. It is, therefore, recommended that any information pertaining to prevention of crime or law & order situation collected by the Federal Intelligence Agencies be shared at least at divisional level.

VIII: Capacity and efficiency building of Special Branch: The capacity of Special Branch be enhanced and efficiency building measures be taken. It should be accorded higher priority to make it more efficient and responsive towards the exigencies.

IX: Establishment of Special Force for Protection and Protocol of VIPs and other vulnerable persons: It has been noticed during the inquiry that much time, efforts and funds of District police are exhausted in providing protection and protocol to VIPs or to other vulnerable persons which results in the neglect of many areas of interest and welfare of common man. It is, therefore, recommended that a Special Force for this Purpose be established, so that the normal District Police can concentrate on its basic

functions in an efficient, effective and objective manner. Indeed good governance need good police.

X. Gradation of the District on the basis of sensitivity and enhancement of the law enforcing personnel accordingly:

Gradation of the districts be made on the basis of their sensitivity towards religious or sectarian issues and personal of the Law Enforcing Agencies accordingly be enhanced to tackle the situation of emergency therein without any delay and looking for further enforcement from the other sources. In addition, list of the State art equipment and outfit required to meet sudden, wide spread and violent public disturbances should be made for each district headquarter and stored at a safe and convenient place from where it could be drawn in an emergency without any waste of time.

JUSTICE IQBAL HAMEED-UR-RAHMAN

Note: None of the above mentioned recommendations had been implemented till 2013 however the Caretaker government of Punjab placed the full inquiry report on official website. https://punjab.gov.pk/?q=system/files/Inquiry_Report_on_Gojra_Incident_2009_0.pdf

Recommendations

<https://punjab.gov.pk/?q=system/files/Chapter%20D.pdf> Facts about Gojra- Korian incidents on July 31st and August 1st, 2009

Facts about Gojra- Korian incidents on July 31st and August 1st, 2009

Socio-psychological / economic loss	140 houses (Korian: 70, Gojra 70) burnt with household items. Around 1500 persons displaced (temporarily) the Federal and Provincial government spent one Billion rupees on reconstruction of houses, etc.
Loss of life	Six Christians burnt alive one died of heart attack, one Muslim youth who reportedly participated in attack passed away in Hospital.
Action against Police and administration officials by Punjab Government	<p><i>The following action was taken officers however all were restored in their jobs.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District Nazim Abdul Sattar: Suspended, 2. Regional Police officer/Deputy Inspector General of Police (RPO/DIG Ahmad Raza Tahir): Demoted to Officer on Special Duty (OSD) and departmental inquiry initiated. 3. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP Inkar Khan) Demoted to OSD and departmental inquiry initiated. Superintendent of Police (SP in-charge Ziaullah Niazi), Suspended, District Coordinator officer (DCO Imran Sikandar Baloch): Disciplinary action initiated. Suspended and disciplinary action initiated Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP Raja Ghulam Abbas): Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI Ibrar), Sub Inspector (SI Liaquat), Sub Inspector SI Mushtaq Ahmad: 4.

Complainant	Gojra : Mr. Almas Masih and family are residing abroad. Korian: Master Mehnga Masih, Mr. Phantias Masih is residing abroad.
Accused	Gojra: 890 Korian: 803, Indentified /unknown accused nominated in FIR
Arrests	Gojra: 69 Korian: 66 Total 135
Legal proceedings	Gojra: Anti Terrorism Court Faisalabad dismissed the application submitted by the accused of Gojra incident for their acquittal as the complainant is not perusing the case because he is out of country. Moreover, all person arrested are bailed out. Korian: Anti Terrorism Court Faisalabad rejected the application submitted by the accused of Korian incident for their acquittal on the grounds of compromised between both the parties. Moreover, all person arrested are bailed out.
Officials on duty	All the officials suspended rejoined the duties till 2011. No further action was taken after the departmental inquiries.

Chapter 8

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Institutionalized Discrimination

Law and Policy Framework

The constitutional, legal and policy frameworks in general do not treat religious minorities as equal citizens and partners therefore an emphasis on special rights for them becomes an imperative. Largely in the area of civil and political rights, the focus on special rights proved to be insufficient to address the disparity of rights because the differential economic development added impetus to the social discrimination, especially in the past three decades.

Federal and Provincial governments announced 5% job quota for religious minorities in government services, however since there was no regulatory or monitoring body set up, any success in this respect is difficult to measure. On the other hand the implementation of such directives and regulations based on affirmative action remained problematic because of bureaucratic mischief, job mafias armed with corruption and nepotism.

The space for religious minorities gets squeezed as the majority religious expressions find their way into the conduct of the state institutions. Take the morning assembly in a school, oath taking at in political office or a court, ordinary ceremonies held at district administration levels and below, the overall conduct is insensitive to religious diversity. The religious minorities not only get sidelined but also get excluded in the scheme of policy and governance. The basis is laid in the constitution, for instance the Preamble of the constitution (Objectives resolution) talks about safeguarding the 'legitimate' rights of minorities thus retains the interpreting of their rights to state functionaries.

The first streak in the exclusion is about pretending that religious minorities simply do not exist and their representation or safeguards to their interests do not matter. The constitutional bodies were set up ignoring that they affect life of every citizen and not just the majority communities. The Federal Shariat Court and the Council of Islamic Ideology have both de jure and de facto role in legislation. While their decisions are applicable or binding on religious minorities, there is no representation of minorities therein. The most recent example is the Constitutional Reforms Committee (2009-2013) that had no representation from minorities and women. This Committee in the 18th amendment added a discriminatory precondition for the election of Prime Minister that

she or He would have to be a Muslim.

The second trend is about deliberate preference of religion in the law. These constitutional /legal discriminations discussed below in detail had divisive and repressive effects on minorities. For instance Human Rights Monitor 2010 and 2011 reported that state run vocational training institutes refused tuition waiver to Hindus and Christians whereas and dispensaries refused medical treatment on the pretext that the funds originated from Zakat and Ushar collections (taxes) from Muslims citizens. The education system has layers of religious discriminations.

The Ministry for Minorities Affairs, which was meant to serve as an 'institutional arrangement' for safeguarding rights of minorities was subjected to many experiments by governments. It is unresolved whether to have a State Ministry or independent Federal Ministry or simply not have none. While the Pervez Musharraf Cabinet had a Federal Minister for Minorities adjoined with some other portfolios from 1999-2002 (Mr. Derik Cyprian), the next Cabinet (2002-2005) under Prime Minister Zafarullah Jamali dispensed with the Ministry altogether. The staff worked as a division of Ministry for Religious Affairs without much funds (Mr. Ejazul Haq). The next Prime Minister Mr. Shaukat Aziz (2006-2008) in the same tenure appointed a State Minister for Minorities (Mr. Mushtaq Victor) with a separate staff and office.

After assassination of Minister Shahbaz Bhatti who was Federal Minister (November 2009 -March 2011) the government appointed an Advisor to Prime Minister from minorities, with the status of a Federal Minister (Dr. Paul Bhatti) for National Harmony and another State Minister portfolio (Mr. Akram Masih Gill).

The governments failed terribly to explain why the 18th amendment devolution should do away with Ministry for Minorities. Moreover, if the Ministry was devolved then why did the Provincial governments fail to set up these Ministries at provincial level in the wake of gigantic challenges faced by minorities. If it was a principled decision geared towards mainstreaming religious minorities, why did the 18th amendment fail to enhance reserve seats for minorities according to their population size, while general seats were enhanced for National and Provincial assemblies? Why did the amendment make the office of Prime Minister only for Muslim? Either theory did not match practice or we failed miserably in both.

Minister Shahbaz Bhatti gave his life trying to defend rights of Aasia Bibi, nevertheless all accused of blasphemy. However protecting

rights of citizens, especially minorities remained an elusive dream. The Ministry of Minorities Affairs during all tenures relied on giving out charity, rather than addressing the issues concerning rights.

While reporting in the UN bodies successive governments claimed that there was a Commission on Minorities in place. The claim was a farce to say the least. This so-called Commission is a routine subsidiary and advisory body working under the Federal Ministry for Minorities Affairs in an advisory role and not any independent or statutory body as many other countries have. The same practice continues at provincial level as well.

Committees were set up around clichés of Peace and interfaith Harmony, Advisory Committees on Minorities by various governments at national, provincial and district levels. However, as Advisory bodies, these Committees had no statutory terms of reference to guide their work or sufficient mandate and transparency. Nor were these competent bodies were mandated for instance; to reviewing Personal laws for religious minorities, look at safeguarding rights through oversight, etc. The political expediency unfortunately is a constant feature of decision making in governance results in waste of enormous amount of resources.

The Ministry for Minorities in whatever form had to work with paucity of resources mostly, moreover the schemes such as scholarships and aid meant for the needy was administered in a non-transparent way.

In 2011 the NCSW after a study of the matrimonial laws concerning religious minorities prepared drafts about Marriage and Divorce, etc. however the bills were not moved in the parliament during the last term due to lack of consensus building among the Cabinet and among the stakeholders.

Discrimination in the Constitution

The Constitution of Pakistan lacks the standards of human rights of non-discrimination and contains biases resulting in violating the rights of minority communities.

Following is a specimen of discriminations present in the Constitution of Pakistan:

- Islam is the State religion. **Art. 2.**
- The head of State has to be a Muslim. **Art. 41(2).**

- The Prime Minister is also reserved for a Muslim. **Art. 91 (3).**
- The Federal Shariat Court has power to declare any law defunct if repugnant to Islam and to suggest amendments in such laws under Article 31-D. **(Art. 203 E).**
- A non-Muslim can neither be judge nor can appear as a lawyer and witness in the Federal Shariat Court. Maximum one can only be petitioner whereas the petition is to be decided according to the Islamic injunctions
- No law repugnant to Islamic injunctions (of course as expounded by the clergy) can be enforced in Pakistan, **Art. 227.**
- A Council of Islamic Ideology is functioning in the country for past 50 years, with an advisory constitutional role to oversee the Islamic sanction of a law till 1977 but a mandatory intervention since the amendments introduced by Gen. Zia regime **Art. 203 A-J.**
- The Council neither had representation of religious minorities nor were the sentiments and interest of religious minorities taken into account in its recommendations. Yet the consequences of its actions and its expenditures are borne by the whole nation.
- Federal Shariat Court is a parallel judicial system, whose utility remains unevaluated by a competent body and yet unproven. Its jurisdiction extends to the whole of Pakistan. **Art. 203-E (4)** says that only a Muslim lawyer is entitled to appear before the Federal Shariat Court.
- Third Schedule (Oaths of Office)

President, Prime Minister, Speaker of National Assembly or Chairman of Senate (including their deputies) and members of the National Assembly and Senate are required to take oath that his following lines:

That I will strive to preserve the Islamic Ideology which is the basis for the creation of Pakistan, May Allah Almighty help and guide me (A'meen).

***All Member including the Non-Muslims of National Assembly or Member of Senate are required to take this oath with following lines: (In the name of Allah, the most Beneficent, the most Merciful.).....
.. I will strive to preserve the Islamic Ideology which is the basis for the creation of Pakistan:
May Allah Almighty help and guide me (A'meen).***

Evidence in Education System

Disadvantaged by Faith

1. Haroon Arif's Case: Muzaffargarh

Mr. Haroon Arif, a Christian youth scored 930 out of 1100 in his intermediate exams and 860 out of 1100 in the entry test for admission in Medical College in 2011, but could not get into a Medical College. His name was pushed down in the merit list because some of his competitors 20 extra marks were given for learning the Holy Quran by heart. He tried to claim that he had equivalent knowledge of the Bible through certificates of Biblical studies he had done however refused by University of Health Sciences Punjab saying that there was no such policy.

NCJP pursued his writ petition (29468/2011) in the Lahore High court. On December 29, 2011 the case was heard by the two Judges of the Lahore High Court. The court asked the recommendation of Church leaders regarding studies in Christian education which could be considered equivalent to the certificate of Hifz-e-Quran for similar concession.

On January 5, 2012 , another Division Bench of Lahore High Court, Justice Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Mahmood Rasheed Sheikh, disposing off the writ petition, gave direction to the University of Health Sciences (Respondent 3) asking the entity to address the matter in four week's time.

The University did not follow court's order in the given time. In May 2012, a contempt petition was filed by petitioner against the respondents, invoking petitioner's fundamental rights of equality and education and the legitimate interested of minorities guaranteed under articles 22, 25, 26 and 36 of the Constitution of Pakistan.

However, Ministry of Education, the respondent No.1 had petition knocked out by the court challenging the petition that the petitioner does not qualify for the extra 20 marks equivalent to Hifz-e-Quran according to the existing policy.

NCJP

2. Education and the worthy policy: Sagar Ladhani

Mr. Sagar Ladhani, a Hindu student, moved the Sindh High Court on October 27, 2011 against the condition of studying Islamiyat at O-level, for an equivalency certificate from the local education board to appear in the forthcoming entrance test for admissions in medical colleges and institutions.

Petitioner Ladhani, represented by Advocate Dr. Mohammad Farogh Naseem, completed his O and A levels (Cambridge system) through a local private school. The petitioner stated that there was no subject in the O-level curriculum for the students belonging to other religious minorities, including the Hindus. He submitted that when he approached the Board of Intermediate Education to obtain an equivalence certificate of A-level, he was told that it could be granted to him only if he had passed Religious Studies at O-level or Ethics at the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exams.

He said he was unable to apply to the Dow University of Health Sciences for appearing in the forthcoming entrance test for MBBS admission, as the education board declined to grant him the equivalence certificate as required by the university. The petitioner's counsel stated that the placement test for admission to medical colleges would be conducted on October 30, 2011 and the petitioner was informed about the requirement on October 4, 2011. He stated that such a condition was not notified to the petitioner prior to his taking O-level exams. Also, he said, Ethics was not part of the curriculum in the Cambridge education system but part of the curriculum in the SSC exams.

The counsel stated that the SSC examination of Ethics was scheduled for May 2012 and if the condition was not relaxed, the petitioner was bound to lose his academic year. He prayed to the court that the petitioner, subject to qualification or otherwise, be allowed to take the scheduled admission test.

Mr. Ladhani stated that he had passed eight subjects at O-level and Ethics would be ninth in case he was required to pass it in the SCC examination, which would be unfair since other students competing in the test had passed only eight subjects.

The petitioner prayed to the court to direct the respondents to allow him to apply for admission to the medical college and sit the entrance exam.

Dawn October 28, 2011

The Sindh High Court on October 28, 2011 provisionally allowed

Ladhani to appear in the forthcoming placement test for MBBS admission to the Dow University of Health Sciences.

Dawn October 29, 2011

3. The big brother bigger

On March 8, 2012 the Punjab Assembly passed a unanimous resolution to make teaching Holy Quran part of the curriculum.

Discrimination in Educational Institutions

4. Ten students expelled: Faisalabad

At least 10 Ahmadi students and a female teacher were expelled from the local schools in the village of Dharanwali district Faisalabad, for being Ahmadis.

The Express Tribune

5. All rusticated Ahmadi students in Dharanwali were taken back by their schools.

Dawn

6. Hina Akram: Faisalabad

Ms. Hina Akram, an Ahmadi student at the National Textile University, Faisalabad, had to leave her studies due to intense faith-based harassment at the university. One of her teachers told that she was a Kafir (infidel).

www.humanrights.asia

7. Education for all but Ahmadis: Dunyapur

Mr. Azhar Ahmad (30) and wife Ms. Sarwar of Qutb Pur, Tehsil Dunyapur district Lodhran established a New Millat College of Commerce and Science in 2009. The excellent result animated them to introduce classes for women for F. Sc, B. Com, B. Ed and M. Ed degree. The Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwat started a hostile propaganda campaign against the College. They printed posters calling for boycott of the College and put them up all over the town. The clerics visited them and urged to convert to Islam. The couple left Dunyapur in March 2011, after selling their property at throw away price.

Study on Biases in Education

The Comparison of Textbooks for 2009-11 with 2012-13 in the Public Schools of Province Punjab

In the wake of curriculum approved in 2006/2009, it was expected that the changes in the textbooks in 2012 would make the books free from the hate material. However, the printed textbooks not only retained the hate material but it was increased comparatively. If

there were 45 lines of hate material in the syllabus books for 2009, it got increased to 122 in 2012. The larger increase was in the books of Urdu language and Pakistan Studies for grade 10th, 9th, 8th and 7th. In these specific books there were 15 lines of the hate material in 2009 which increased to 86 later on.

In the book of Urdu Grammar and Punctuations for class 9th & 10th there was no chapter with the hate material in 2009, while there are three containing it in 2012. The book of Pakistan Studies for grade 9 had no hate material in 2009 however it holds three chapters with it in 2012. The History book for grade 6 was free of hate material in 2009 while it is included in one chapter in 2012. In 2009, there was no chapter containing hate material in the Social Studies book for 8th grade, however Urdu book contained one. In 2012, hate material was found in 4 chapters in Social Studies and 3 chapters in Urdu book for class 8th.

The Comparison of Textbooks of 2009-11 with 2012-13 in the Public Schools of Province Sindh.

After evaluating the textbooks used for class 5 to 10 in the public schools of province Sindh, 11 chapters were found with hate material in 2009 while there were 22 chapters in 2012. The book of Urdu and Islamiyat of 5th class were free of hate material in 2009-11; however, three chapters are containing hate material in Islamiyat and one in the Urdu in 2012.

Looking at the books for grade 6, the Social Studies book had three chapters and Urdu had one with the hate material while Islamiyat was free from it in 2009-11. However, for the same grade, there were three chapters containing hate material in Urdu and Islamiyat both, while Social Studies was made free from it in 2012.

Evaluation of the books of grade 7 showed that Social Studies had three and Islamiyat had two chapters with hate material in 2009-11. It kept remained in two chapters of Social Studies while it got removed from Islamiyat in 2012.

For class 8th the Social Studies book had one chapter containing hate material, while Urdu book was free from it in 2009-11. The Social Studies remained with the same one chapter whereas the hate material was included in seven chapters of Urdu in 2012.

There was one chapter in the Pakistan Studies for class 9th & 10th which remained the same in 2012. The Urdu book for Class 9th &

10th did not contain any hate material in 2009-11 while one chapter was added in 2012.

Recommendations

This study endorses the independent researches done earlier on the subject of biases, hatred and discrimination especially those based on religion. The effects of these discriminations and hatred on Pakistani society, in the form of colossal incidence of sectarian and religion based violence and growing extremism, are well known.

Therefore to achieve the goal of quality education and build a peaceful society, NCJP would like to make following recommendations:

- Besides imparting knowledge, the textbooks and teaching at schools should focus educating young minds on universal humanity, dignity of human beings and responsible citizenship.
- The current curriculum and education policy should be reviewed to remove policies, teaching materials and practices that are discriminatory and inflammatory especially against the minority faiths / religions.
- Ideally, the public education should be separated from religious education however, if not possible, following Article 22 of the Constitution, the students belonging to minority religions should get equal opportunity to study their own religion(s). This should be a substitute of Islamiat instead of Ethics, enabling students to avail grades in their own religious learning.
- Arrangements should be made for students belonging to Hindu, Christian, Sikh and other religious groups to study their own religions as a substitute for Nazrah also.
- Classes and the subjects other than Religious Studies should not have lessons on any particular religion.
- The role of religious minorities in creation and development of Pakistan should be incorporated in the syllabus.
- The teacher's trainings, school environment and co-curricular activities should be designed to maintain respect for all religious traditions and values.

Legal analysis of policy and practices in Education system

Discrimination	Violation of
<p>a) Religions other than Islam, when mentioned, are dealt with contempt and biases. Educationists, intellectuals and civil society organizations have time and again identified lessons reflecting religious biases, hatred and twisting the history, this critique has been absolutely ignored. Hate materials and religious discriminations are still part of curricula in languages, social studies, geography and history.</p>	<p>Article 20 of the Constitution of Pakistan guaranteeing freedom of religion for all citizens. Article 26 (2 and 3) of Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 29 of Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 2 (1) Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief</p>
<p>b) Every Hafiz-e-Quran (person who has learnt The Quran by heart) is eligible for 10 - 20 extra marks for admissions and jobs at the Public Service Commission since 1992.</p>	<p>Article 25 ; the Constitution of Pakistan, establishing equality of citizens before law. Article 2 (2) ; Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief</p>
<p>c) Though Islamic Studies is a compulsory subject for Muslim students in each class at School, College levels and at most of the Universities and non-Muslim students are theoretically given the option to take up Ethics, a big majority of non-Muslim students are also forced to take Islamic studies due to fear of enhancing discrimination against themselves and other technical difficulties involved in taking the option of Ethics. Besides the compulsory Islamiyat, it is an Elective subject too.</p>	<p>Article 22; the Constitution of Pakistan under heading Safeguards as to educational institutions in respect of religion, etc. states (1) <i>No person attending any educational institution shall be required to receive religious instruction, or take part in any religious ceremony, or attend religious worship, if such instruction, ceremony or worship relates to a religion other than his own.</i> Article 4 and 5 of Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, Article 4, Article 5 (2 and 3) of Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief</p>
<p>d) Subjects other than Islamiyat, especially social studies and languages have 20-40% of material on the subjects solely related to Islam, which students from religious minorities cannot avoid studying.</p>	<p>Article 22 (1) of the Constitution of Pakistan Article 13 (1 and 3) of International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</p>
<p>e) Education policy of 2009 made 'Reading of Quranic parts' (Nazira) also compulsory subject from grade 3 to 8, without giving a viable alternative to non-Muslim students.</p>	<p>Article 22 (1) of the Constitution of Pakistan Article 18 (4) of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</p>

Recommendations

Reference to the abovementioned points, we urge the Pakistani authorities asking:

- The current curriculum and education policy should be reviewed to remove lessons and practices which contradict Universal Human Rights, are discriminatory and inflammatory especially against the minority faiths / religion.
- Ideally, the public education should be separated from religious education, if not then at least the Islamic Studies should be part of Higher/ Secondary classes only and the subjects other than Islamic Studies should not have lessons about any particular religion.
- The arrangements should be made for students belonging to Hindu, Christian, Sikh and other religious groups to study their own religions instead of Ethics as a substitute of Islamiyat, and Nazrah.

Pakistan's Educational System Fuels Religious Discrimination: US report

Leonard Leo, chairman of the US government Commission on International Religious Freedom which released its report on November 9, 2011. The chairman said that teaching discrimination increases the likelihood that violent religious extremism in Pakistan will continue to grow.

The study reviewed more than 100 textbooks from grades 1-10 across all four provinces. Researchers, in February this year, visited 37 public schools where they interviewed 277 students and teachers, and 19 Madrassas where they interviewed 226 students and teachers. The study said, in 2006, the government announced plans to reform the curriculum to address the problematic content, but that has not been done. The report found systematic negative portrayals of minorities, especially Hindus and, to a lesser extent, Christians.

The report said "religious minorities are often portrayed as inferior or second-class citizens who have been granted limited rights and privileges by generous Pakistani Muslims, for which they should be grateful. Hindus are repeatedly described as extremists and eternal

enemies of Islam whose culture and society is based on injustice and cruelty, while Islam delivers a message of peace and brotherhood, concepts portrayed as alien to the Hindu."

The report stated that the books don't contain many specific references to Christians, but those "that do exist seem generally negative".

Attempts to reach the education minister for his comments were not successful. Islam under threat' the researchers also found that the books foster a sense that Pakistan's Islamic identity is under constant threat.

"The anti-Islamic forces are always trying to finish the Islamic domination of the world", read one passage from social studies text being taught to Grade 4 students in Punjab. "This can cause danger for the very existence of Islam. Today, the defense of Pakistan and Islam is very much in need." "The report articulated that Islamic teachings and references were commonplace in compulsory text books, not just religious ones, meaning Pakistan's Christians, Hindus and other minorities were being taught Islamic content. It said this appeared to violate Pakistan's constitution, which states that students should not have to receive instruction in a religion other than their own. According to the study, teachers' attitudes and views were frequently nuanced and sometimes contradictory. While many advocated respectful treatment of religious minorities, this was conditional upon the attitudes of the minorities, "which appeared to be in question. The desire to proselytize was cited as one of the main motivations for kind treatment.

The report declared that more than half the public school teachers acknowledged the citizenship of religious minorities, but a majority expressed the opinion that religious minorities must not be allowed to hold positions of power, in order to protect Pakistan and Muslims. While many expressed the importance of respecting the practices of religious minorities, simultaneously 80% of teachers viewed non-Muslims, in some form or another, as "enemies of Islam".

The Express Tribune November 10, 2011

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Crime against Women

Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women, states:

States Parties shall take in all fields, in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men.

Art. 3

Declaration on the rights of person belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities:

1. The state shall take measures where required to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all their human rights and fundamental freedom without any discrimination and in full equality before the law.

Art. 4

Equality before the law:

1. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex alone.

Art. 25

Full participation of women:

Steps shall be taken to ensure full participation of women in all spheres of national life.

Art. 25

The Case of Double Jeopardy

Survey report: 'Life on the Margins'

The Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace, better known as the National Commission for Justice & Peace carried out a survey to collect firsthand information on the lives of minority women as they live within their homes and in society vis-à-vis their human rights. This data showed the relationship within and the environment or the society and the country in which they live and grow.

What are the opportunities and the challenges that impact their lives? What might by inference be factors that may either help them to develop and lead fulfilling lives or other factors that may impinge upon their rights be it the right to education, health, mobility,

participation at the family, societal, political level or one where the law of the land acts either to enhance the role of women is a hindrance to enjoy equal rights as equal citizens of the country.

The survey was carried out in the provinces of Punjab and Sindh, interviewing 1000 minority women. The survey was limited to Christian and Hindu women being the two largest minorities (about 92 percent of the total minorities). Hindus mostly reside in Sindh and Christians in the Punjab, hence the decision to carry out the survey in these provinces. The women belonged to 8 districts in Punjab whereas 18 in Sindh. The survey report has a wealth of information about gender and religion specific crimes and human right violations. **(For full Report visit www.ncjp-pk.org)**

Key Findings of the Survey

Discrimination at workplace, educational institutions and localities

The study conducted by NCJP states that 43% of the minority women interviewed had either faced religious discrimination themselves or was experienced by a member of their family. An equal percentage did not respond to the question, indicating fears and reservations about openly discussing religious discrimination.

Discrimination ranged from refusing to dine together (19%) (something that promotes relationships, binds people together, and refusals being in contrast to cultural assertions of being hospitable and friendly), to a discouraging attitude (16%). Hate speech and derogatory remarks followed next.

Only 14% of respondents said that they have never experienced religious discrimination. Most of the discrimination seems to be in the workplace (40%) with educational institutions coming in second (24%) and in one's own locality (18%).

At least over a quarter of the women (27%) faced problems in getting admission either at school, colleges or universities on account of their religious identity. A little over half (51%) of the women either themselves or their children have/are studying Islamiat. 53% respondents were uneducated themselves whereas 46% offspring being either illiterate or not responding.

The response indicates that due to limited choice the vast majority of non-Muslim students are obliged to take Islamic Studies as the only other choice available is the subject of Ethics. It is generally understood that this option carried a disadvantage including the risk

of discrimination in marking, will jeopardize student's interest.

Only 19% ever dare discuss such attitudes of their classmates with their teachers with more opting not to (23%) and 58% remaining silent on the question. The reason given was that they will face discrimination from teachers (9%) and are fearful of the whole matter (3%) so better ignore it. However, again the major chunk of 72% remained silent on the issue.

Nearly 50% of women record a positive attitude and showing of interest by the majority community related to the wearing of religious icons by the minority women, their particular names of a religious identity, world view, rites and rituals, way of worship or of not wearing a veil.

Gender Discrimination

Within their own family structures, 66% of minority women responded that they have been brought up in an environment where they have been treated as equal to their male siblings. Other aspects where the percentage crosses 50% is in terms of encouragement to receive education (58%), holding a job/working (73%) and participation in the decision making process (66%).

A significant number of respondents (66%) said they are not allowed to exercise free choice in marrying, neither will they have a say/had a say in the person they married/will marry. In arranged marriages also 62% parents may/do not ask their children of their opinion/choice.

Overall Social Environment

For 55% of the women, the environment is conducive as they are treated in an unbiased manner, but around 38% have felt the pinch of bias.

The ones who do enjoy a better environment describe the attitude of the majority community towards them as 'friendly' (42%), with 34% as 'helpful' and 15% as 'cooperative'. However, 62% of the respondents feel that in times of religious disturbance they will not be supported by the majority community with 27% answering that they will stand up for them.

For the 27% who responded that the majority community will stand up/support them during a 'religious disturbance' a larger majority of 70% did not respond when asked in what way will they be supported.

Mobility and Gender Crimes

56% respondent women do travel alone. Of those not travelling alone the biggest reason is due to family restrictions (15%) with 9% feeling insecure, 1% on account of sexual harassment, 1% ignorance (perhaps of the routes) and 5% never having travelled alone.

However, those who do travel alone 50% do feel safe but a fair percentage of 46% do not, stating 'fear' and 'insecurity' (11% & 10%) as the main reasons. 65% did not respond, perhaps fearful of even stating a reason.

The women respondents who form the larger percentage of working women 76% (24% were house wives) state that they (30%) have been sexually harassed at the workplace with 27% saying they had not experienced it and 43% deciding not to respond.

14% of the respondents interviewed reported to have firsthand knowledge of cases where minority women had been abducted with 8% knowing of forced conversion and 3% of cases of trafficking.

Living Conditions

As majority of the respondents belong to cities, 65% live in brick houses with 12% in semi-brick houses and 15% in mud houses. 65% of the respondents have their own houses with 27% living in rented accommodation. However, majority i.e., 62% live either in one or two bedroom houses whereas 60% of the respondents have from 5-10 family members residing in the house with a further 10% where family members are between 10 to below 13 members. Only 16% live in a three-bedroom house with 1% in a 7 bedroom house.

67% use pour flush latrines but 11% have no toilet facilities at all, 21% have either covered pit latrines, open pit latrines or use pots.

Economic Conditions

29% of the respondents have a monthly family income from Rs.12,000 to below Rs.25,000 with only 14% having an income of Rs.25,000 or more. Around 20% are earning less than the stipulated government wages of Rs.7000 per month.

Three quarters of the respondents are not in a position to save with only 25% being able to save. Out of these 15% are able to save on a monthly basis ranging from less than Rs.2,000 to more than Rs.20,000 (only 1%).

38% - 41% respondents or their families are under debt / loan

burden. 5% of the people are unable to save anything at all.

Heath Care

Though 41% of the women received pre-natal care, 34% did not, with 25% not responding to the question at all, whereas 22% were unmarried. The women who did not receive pre-natal care (29%) said it was not on account of family constraints which amounted to only 4% but due to economic reasons with 7% on account of lack of medical facilities available.

For medical care 38% of the respondents seem to prefer clinics with nearly the same percentage opting for private hospitals - 30% and the other 31% using government hospitals. Only 10% go to Basic Health Units.

Civic and Political Participation

79% of the respondents hold a computerized national identity card with 74% being registered voters and 65% having exercised their voting rights.

The percentage drops to a low 5% of minority women being members of a political party with a 69% answering in the negative and 26% not responding at all. Of these only 1% of respondents were office bearers, 2% representatives with 3% as members. From among these 18% are not asked to take part in the decision making process, with only 4% taking part in decision making and the larger part (69%) not responding at all. These percentages reflect that other than casting the vote, minority women from the two largest minorities in Pakistan (Hindus and Christians) lag behind when it comes to being members of political parties.

Incidence During the Reporting Period

Murder

Amaria: Faisalabad

Ms. Amaria (18), a Christian was shot dead when she resisted a sexual assault by Mr. Arif Gujjar (28), a Muslim on November 27, 2011 at village 475 G.B, Samundari district Faisalabad.

The incident took place when Amaria and her mother Razia Bibi (50) went to nearby canal to fetch water. Gujjar, a drug addicted; son of a landlord (Mr. Muhammad Shafi Gujjar), and his friend held her on gun point. When she resisted, he opened fire causing her death on the spot.

Police arrested the culprit and registered a case (FIR # 491) U/S 302 of PPC against Gujjar on the complaint of Amaria's father Mansha Masih.

NCJP

Abduction and Rape

1. Sehar Naz, Faisalabad

Mr. Arif Atif Rana posed to be an Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) officer kidnapped and raped Ms. Sehar Naz (24) a Christian sales officer in government insurance company on April 14, 2011.

She was going with sales managers in their car to attend a conference when a person stopped the car and introduced himself as a Major in the Intelligence Service (ISI). He was standing with a traffic police official and asked the occupants of the car to show their identity papers. As he received the identity card of Sehar Naz he told the insurance officers that he wanted to take her for investigation. The insurance officers tried to prevent this but he threatened to kill them for interfering with his official work. The insurance officers quickly lodged a police report on the same day. The police lodged the FIR numbered 454/11.

Rana took her to different places, his house in Faisalabad then Lahore, where she was raped for four days. On 18 April he dropped her at the Faisalabad railway station threatening to arrest her parents in bomb blast case if she tells anyone about the rape. Ms. Naz recorded her statement before the police. The police then issued a certificate for a medical examination which proved that she had been sexually assaulted.

NCJP

2. Shaista Samuel: Lahore

Ms. Shaista Samuel (27), a Christian nurse at Services Institute of Medical Science was allegedly abducted and raped by a Muslim colleague Mr. Ali Adnan who filmed the act to blackmail her into renouncing her faith and marrying.

She filed an FIR accusing Mr. Adnan, a Muslim assistant accountant at the hospital, with an armed accomplice abducted her at gunpoint from the hospital on August 21, 2011 and took her to a house in Lahore where Adnan's accomplice filmed the rape.

Compass Direct News

3. Mrs. Mushtaq: Kasur

A Christian mother of five was allegedly abducted and raped by two

Muslim men on September 15, 2011, she was returning home from a garment factory. Two Muslims, identified as Bhallu (23) and Shera (27) along with an unidentified accomplice, allegedly abducted her at gunpoint and took her to an abandoned house in the area where they raped her.

Her husband, Mushtaq Masih, called police who visited the crime scene and took the woman to the hospital for a medical examination that proved she was gang-raped. Police filed a First Information Report (FIR No. 491/11) against Bhallu and his accomplices. The accused tried to have the charges dropped by threatening victim's family however on the intervention of the DPO, the police arrested them.

Minorities Concern of Pakistan

4. Iram Anwar: Lahore

Ms. Iram Ashraf (13), a Christian minor of Harbanspura Lahore, was raped by Muhammad Amin, who also forced her to convert to Islam in August 2011.

Amin, the owner of a kiln factory, forcibly entered the house of his employee, Mr. Anwar Masih and raped Iram at gunpoint. Then he forced the victim to affix her thumb impression on marriage papers. Her parents reported to police however, the police did not take action against the accused due to his influence. The culprit also sought the help of a Muslim religious group who threatened the police that if a case is filed, the houses of the Christian community will be burnt.

On October 22, 2011 after many delayed proceedings, the Sessions Court of Lahore ordered the Harbanspura police to file the case. However, police was reluctant to take action again.

<http://alaiwah.wordpress.com/2011/11/02/christian-girls-kidnapped-forcibly-married-in-the-punjab/>

5. Sonia: Kasur

Ms. Sonia (20) was kidnapped and raped by a group of Muslim youths as she was on her way to work in Kasur. She was taken to hospital, traumatized after being gang raped. The complaint was been register by police.

Agahi News December 11, 2011

6. Sidra Bibi: Sheikhupura

Ms. Sidra Bibi (14), a Christian, was abducted and raped by a Muslim. Eventually she became pregnant. She managed to escape from her tormentor and went back to her family. Police refused to accept her complaint, later an NGO lawyers was handling the case.

Agenzia Fides

7. Afshan Sabir: Faisalabad

Ms. Afshan (29) a Christian was abducted and gang raped by her co-worker Mr. Waqas Kashi along with his six accomplices. She stated that the accused promised her a handsome job and took her away to an unknown place. On screaming, she was beaten, intoxicated and raped whole night.

Afshan managed to escape and reported to police, however, police got her sign on the blank paper that later was produced as compromise agreement. After some interventions, she registered an FIR against the police. **NCJP**

8. Shakila Bibi Faisalabad

Shakila Ashraf (aged 14 years in 2005) daughter of Ashraf Masih, a Christian girl was raped by Ahsan ul Haq at Chak 219/GB Faisalabad. NCJP pursued the case and provided Legal & Paralegal aid to the victim. An FIR was registered at the local police station and accused was awarded Rigorous imprisonment of 14 years along with compensation to the victim girl.

Update

On 2011 the convict (Ahsan ul Haq) filed an appeal in the Federal Shariat Court for holding the judgment delivered against him. However, reconsidering the evidences of the case Justice Shahzado Sheikh and Justice Rizwan Ali Dodani enhanced the imprisonment to 20 years and keeping the compensation amount same as ordered in the first judgment. **NCJP**

Christian minor girl kidnapped and converted to Islam

On 4th May 2012, a Christian minor girl Shafila Arfaqshad (14) daughter of Arfaqshad Masih, resident of Faisalabad was kidnapped by her converted Muslim maternal uncle Zulfiqar from her house in order to marry her with his son Kashif.

Afraqshad filed a report at the local police station however no action was taken by the police officials. During the span of police proceedings, Mr. Zulfiqar converted Shafila to Islam and married her to Kashif on 7th May 2012.

“My daughter is only 14 years old and a heart patient since birth and unable to do any heavy work” said Arfaqshad.

Some months later, Shafila got seriously ill and her husband and family left her alone and went to an unknown place. Shafila reached Dar-ul-Aman, a shelter home in Faisalabad; and registered a case against her husband and uncle in the local police station.

Police arrested Kashif and his family. Zulifqar and his wife were released on bail, however Kashif is in jail, moreover he applied for post arrest bail at Lahore High Court. **NCJP**

Rape and Murder

Nazia Barkat: Sahiwal

Ms. Nazia Barkat, a Christian student of grade 6, was raped and later murdered by two Muslims Mr. Amin and Kalim who were at large till report. **Agahi News, Feb. 6, 2011**

Kidnapping

1. Nilofar Abadan: Quetta

Ms. Nilofar Abadan, a Parsi, the wife of a former provincial minister was kidnapped by armed men on March 8, 2011 in Quetta. Her husband, Faridoon Abadan, was kidnapped over 10 years ago and remains missing to date.

DIG Operation Mr. Hamid Shakeel said the armed men intercepted her car at a speed breaker near the Gurdatt Singh Chowk and kidnapped the woman. She was going to the Quetta Distillery, owned by her husband. The armed men took her away. Later, the car was found abandoned in Al-Gilani Road. Ms. Abadan had been looking after the business of her missing husband after his kidnapping 10 years ago. **Dawn, March 9, 2011**

2. Honor crime- Rachel and Mariam: Sheikhpura

Rakhel and Mariam, both unmarried Christian sisters, were held by an influential Muslim family because their brother Sajid Ashraf allegedly eloped with a Muslim girl Saleha Naurean on May 13, 2011. The Muslim parents threatened further retaliation against the Christian family if they did not produce their daughter.

The village's influential Gujar family sent armed men to watch their house. They beat the Christians to disclose the couple's whereabouts. They took Sajid's sisters and kept them hostage for several days. They warned the Christian family if they approach the

police, they will turn the issue into a religious matter. However members of Christians informed the police about the ongoing tribulation. The police did not take any step to protect the Christian family.

Compass Direct News

3. Mehek: Gujranwala

Ms. Mehek (15), a Christian girl, was allegedly abducted by four Muslims on August 17, 2011. The eye-witnesses, told that abductors allegedly forced their way into the house of Mr. Rashid Masih brandishing their weapons. The attack took place in broad daylight and the assailants were said to have pointed a gun at the head of Mehek and then forced her enter into a car. One of the abductor converted the girl's religion from Christianity to Islam and solemnized Nikkah with her. However the case was registered and Mehek gave the statement in favor of her husband.

NCJP

Women's protection: measures and challenges

Speaking the 14th Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, the Foreign Minister Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, heading the country delegation said that government of Pakistan had paved a way for the protection of women in the country and has enacted legislations and further praised the crucial role of women in the political institutions of the country. She stated that women held 22.2 percent seats in the National Assembly, 17 percent seats in the Senate and 17.6 percent seats in the Provincial Assemblies etc. and also discussed some major legislation passed by the parliament that are as follows:

- **Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2012**
- **Law for establishing National Commission on the Status of Women (2012)**
- **Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act 2011**
- **The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 2011**
- **Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act 2010**
- **The Women in Distress and Detention Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2011**

Laws on sexual harassment (Protection against Harassment at the Workplace Act 2010) in year 2010 criminalized harassment at public and work places.

“The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices” (Criminal Law Amendment) Act 2011 strengthened protections for women against

discrimination and harmful traditional practices. It criminalizes forced marriages, child marriages and other customary practices that are discriminatory towards women. Forced marriage is now punishable with imprisonment up to 10 years and a fine of Rupees 500,000. The law also bans depriving women from inheriting property through any deceitful or illegal means and is punishable with an imprisonment for 5-10 years and fine up to Rupees one million. The practice of so-called "Marriage to the Quran" in order to deprive them of their right to inheritance has also been criminalized and carries a sentence of 3 to 7 years.

Another legislation i.e. the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention Act that prescribes imprisonment of not less than 14 years and a minimum fine of Rupees one million for those who disable, disfigure or deface any person by throwing corrosive substances at them.

There was a significant progress during 2010-2012 in the area of legislations vis-à-vis gender based crime and violence, however the results and impact would have to be assessed on the evidence of improved human conditions. Another handicap was the absence of similar protective legislation at provincial level. Most of the Federal laws are yet to be adopted by Provincial Assemblies. Third issue is the gaps in implementation and enabling mechanisms therefore the widespread phenomenon of violence remains, by and large, unchecked.

There is the lack of enforcement of rights of the women and proper management of the law enforcement agencies as well administration of justice. For example, Dar ul Aman that provides protection and shelter to women in distress. Services offered include health and vocational training, to women under the supervision of trained sociologists and psychologists.

The much reported case of Conversion of a Hindu Girl "Rinkal Kumari" showed the mismanagement of the administrative set up and enforcement of the rights. Rinkal was supposed to stay alone at the Dar ul Aman; however police officials and abductees were present there just because of the political pressure of the defendant party. On the other hand the Supreme Court of Pakistan set the precedent of injustice by sending the girl with the abductor without taking any proper steps for girl's future and her family. (Picture 2)

It is for these gaps that there is a rise in the violence and crimes against women in the society. The following report by Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN) points to this sad reality.

Murder, rape cases on the rise: Free and Fair Election Network, FAFEN

As many as 29,505 FIRs were registered in 55 districts while serious crimes like murder and rape were frequently reported in urban districts of the country. The highest numbers of FIRs regarding murder (98) were registered in Karachi while the district of Lahore reported the highest number of rape cases (29) during April 2011.

Crimes against women are generally regarded as the outcome of certain socially sanctioned prejudices against women, especially in rural and largely inaccessible tribal areas. However the data suggests that these might be prevalent in developed urban centres of the country as well. Highest number of crimes against women was reported in Lahore.

FAFEN monitors visited offices of the district police officers (DPOs) in 55 districts, of these, 23 districts were monitored in Punjab, 14 in KP, 12 in Sindh, five in Balochistan and the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

More than half of all FIRs filed against each category of crime were lodged in the DPO offices in Punjab. On average, each district recorded a total of 1,069 FIRs. Sindh, ICT and KP followed with an average of 209,205 and 136 FIRs respectively.

With an average of 58 FIRs in each monitored district, Balochistan emerged as the province with the least number of reported crimes. Crimes causing physical harm to people made a fifth of all FIRs registered in the country. These included murder and attempted murder, which together made 47% of all FIRs registered against physical harm. On average, 22 FIRs were registered against murder cases per day in the 49 monitored districts.

The News July 26, 2011

**Violence against women in Pakistan
January to December 2008 –
January to December 2011**

Category	Year 2008	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Grand total	Percentage Increase/ Decrease in cases between 2008-2011
Abduction/kidnapping	1,784	1,987	2236	2089	8096	-6.57%
Murder	1,422	1384	1436	1575	5817	9.68%
Domestic Violence	281	608	486	610	1985	25.51%
Suicide	599	683	633	758	2673	19.75%
Honor killing	475	604	557	705	2341	26.57%
Rape/ Gang Rape	778	928	928	827	3461	-10.88%
Sexual Assault	172	274	74	110	630	48.65%
Acid Throwing	29	53	32	44	158	37.5%
Burning	61	50	38	29	178	-23.68%
Miscellaneous	1,970	1977	1580	1792	7319	13.42%
Total	7,571	8548	8000	8539	32658	6.74%

Source: 2011 Annual Report Aurat Foundation

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Political Participation

Protection of minorities

The State shall safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of minorities, including their due representation in the Federal and Provincial services. Article 36, Constitution of Pakistan

Mr. S.P Singha, a Christian politician hailing from Sialkot and Speaker of Punjab Legislative Council (Assembly), who made it possible that Punjab could become part of Pakistan by casting his decisive vote in favor in an evenly divided house, passed away soon after the creation with heart attack (1948). Though he lived to hear about the unfortunate incident of burning houses belonging to a Christian settlement near Kasur. His proposal for allotting Christian landless farmers pieces of agricultural land received a discouraging response, which must have disturbed him also.

The first Law Minister of Pakistan Mr. Jogindar Nath Mandal and representative of the minorities in the Federal cabinet gave a detailed account about the uncanny politics of the Muslim League and its leadership in his resignation spanning over more 15 pages. His resignation addressed to Prime Minister Liaqat Ali Khan spoke about his efforts to bring the violence in Bengal down in 1946 riots when Hussain Shaheed Suharwardi was the Chief Minister of Bengal and how his political party supported All India Muslim League in elections the same year. Several pages of this historical document explain how the Muslim League leadership of that time ignored the plight of Hindus and Scheduled cast. Lastly, referring to the passing of the Objectives Resolution which laid the foundation of a theocratic state, he protests that the fact that Muslim league never made the intention clear to him or his party during the struggle for Pakistan that it is going to be a religious state. This resignation was tendered on October 8, 1950.

The Constituent Assembly of Pakistan passed the Objective Resolution on the basis of Muslim majority in the house on March 12, 1949, with all 10 non-Muslim opposed and all 21 Muslim members voted in favor. Hence this was neither a consensus document nor an original one. Except portions related to religion it was a reproduction of the Objective Resolution passed by Indian Parliament, even more embarrassing was the fact the India has passed a Constitution while Assembly in Pakistan was still at a struggling stage.

Another politically significant event was passage of the Constitution in 1954 which finally had a joint electorate thanks to the Bengali

representative who had to engage in debates with politicians from West Pakistan. They also made their resolve clear that the East Pakistan will have joint electorate and separate electorate for religious minorities.

However the political discourse changed 25 years later after 1971 as East Pakistan became independent country as Bangladesh. The crushing defeat in war with India made the civil and military leadership more reactive and religious minority were put at receiving end even since in the earlier west (Pakistan).

Be it the disgruntled right wing politics or the self exaggerating socialists, the religious minorities were drown closer to chopping block as both side launched their misadventures in Politics during 70's. Long before Zia's Islamization of state system, the 1973 Constitution enhanced the Islamic provisions in the constitution and made the country an Islamic Republic.

With this emphasis on one religion, the special rights were brought into constitution and statecraft to balance out. Though Mr. Z.A. Bhutto kept Raja Tridev Roy, the Buddhist Chief of Chakma tribe who opted to part away from his family in Bangladesh, he was given the portfolio of a Minister. In Bhutto's cabinet and reserve seat were created for minorities to include their representation in 1974.

General Zia used the pretext of reserve seats to introduce Separate Electorate for local bodies in 1079 and General Elections in 1985. The religious minorities, together with the civil society campaigned hard to have this system repealed, that included boycott of local body election in 2000-2001 which forced General Musharraf to decide in favor of restoring Joint Electorate for 2002 General Elections. A section of minorities especially the minority politicians who participated in Separate Electorate tried to rally around the option of "double vote" for minorities which Benazir Bhutto proposed in 1996, to dilute the Separate Electorate based on religion apartheid.

In 2011 Supreme Court was approached to plead that the reserved seat did not bring the 'true' representation from minorities as they were not directly elected. The idea did not appeal the minority voters too much as the joint electorate had just made it possible for minority voters to feel equal. They were able to actively participate in political parties' ranks and over all process in the current dispensation.

The political process during 2011-2012 was still challenged by;

extremism, lack of rule of law, economic woes, and the religious shared the dissatisfaction of the masses.

President signs amendment, 4 seats for non-Muslims

The amendment in the Senate (Election) Rules 1975 came in compliance with provisions of the 18th constitutional amendment, which envisage four seats for non-Muslims, one from each province. Each provincial assembly will elect a senator in the next Senate polls, scheduled for 02 March 2012. Although 10 seats are reserved in the National Assembly for minority members, there is no representation for minorities in the 100-member Senate.

In 2012, the size of the Senate increased to 104, with the addition of reserved seats for members from Pakistan's minority, non-Muslim communities.

Express Tribune, Aug. 26th, 11

Punjab Local Government Ordinance (PLGO), 2012

The Punjab cabinet approved in principle the Punjab Local Government Bill 2012 however it was not presented in assembly for adoption. The draft bill had following for minorities:

Representation of minorities:

- (1) The number of members in a local council representing minorities shall be 5% of the total number of seats for general members
- (2) A candidate belonging to minorities may contest local council election against a general member seat in addition to the reserved seats as mentioned in sub-section.
- (3) There shall be at least one member from the minorities in each local council, except where there is no non-Muslim population.

Government increases seats of minorities in assemblies'

Sindh Assembly, 12 instead of 9 in Punjab Assembly 10 instead of 8 in KPK Assembly and 4 instead of 3 in Balochistan Assembly, he noted. The Sindh minister said increase in number of seats for minorities will help reduce the problems of minorities.

Daily times December 17, 2012

Civil Society Press Brief on Local Government Election and Punjab Local Government Bill 2012

In wake of 18th Constitutional Amendment 2010, under which the

local government is now a provincial subject, the Punjab government, like other provincial governments, was supposed to legislate on local government and introduce a local government system under the new law, which suits the local conditions best.

Unnecessary Delays in Local Government Election: Following the end of last local government's tenure in 2009, a new interim local government system was established in all four provinces, including Punjab. The very new found local government system is largely controlled by bureaucracy. Unlike the democratically elected representatives, the government authorities presently running the affairs of local governments are not accessible to the citizens.

Public Scrutiny of Local Government Act 2012: Since the local governments largely deal with welfare and development of citizens, any legislation related to local governance must be brought under public scrutiny so that different sections of society should contribute towards making the law responsive to the needs and wishes of people at large. However, the legislative process regarding the PLGB 2012 didn't involve any mechanism to share the draft law with different sections of society and seek their feedback and in-puts on the local government system to be established under it.

Devolution and decentralization: To make them effective and efficient, the local governments need certain level of devolution and decentralization in terms of exercising political, administrative and financial powers. Contrary to the spirit of 18th Amendment and article 140 of the Constitution, the Punjab government has vested overwhelming powers with the provincial government under the PLGB 2012. Without devolving the political, administrative and financial powers to the local government, the provincial government is likely to interfere in the affairs of local governments. Under the new law, the provincial government in consultation with election commission could dissolve the local governments at any time. The elected representatives of local governments under the new law will have no authority.

SC returns plea seeking appointment of judges from minorities

The Supreme Court turned down a constitutional petition seeking the appointment of a Supreme Court judge from the minorities. The petition was filed by Advocate Zulfiqar Ahmed Bhutta under Article 184(3) of the constitution making the Federation and the Ministry of law and justice as respondents. Zulfiqar Bhutta informed the court that any person from the minorities who fulfilled the criteria to be a judge of the Supreme Court could take the seat of retiring Justice

Javed Iqbal. Referring to articles 27, 36, 37, he pointed to lack of their representation in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court Registrar office, however, returned the petition saying that the petitioner had no legal status or right to file the petition. The petitioner was further told that none of his fundamental rights had been violated and was advised to approach an appropriate forum.

Daily Times August 25, 2011

Recommendations

The issues discussed in Human Rights Monitor are national issues also needing necessary steps, the National Commission for Justice and Peace (NCJP) sees a resolve in implementing the human rights frame work and standards.

NCJP is making the following recommendations believing in the future Pakistan where everyone can live with peace and have access to justice and rights are respected.

National Human Rights Institutions and Human Rights observance Permanent Commissions for Human Rights and Minorities

1. We strongly recommend that two independent and permanent Commissions should be constituted. One for human rights and the other for Minorities rights, with the powers of a Tribunal, to entertain complaints and a timely redress.

2. We strongly urge the Government to constitute an impartial and independent Commission of Inquiry to study the situation of religious minorities and make recommendations to the Government and people of Pakistan.

Religious Discrimination

3. We strongly recommend a constitutional arrangement outlawing religious discrimination which implies an outright rejection of religious discrimination through constitutional amendment and establishing institutions to monitor the implementation of non discrimination as a state policy.

4. Life, liberty, well-being and properties, places of worship and graveyards should be protected proactively.

5. Religious minorities should be saved from assimilation by upgrading their social and economic status through affirmative action. This implies providing sufficient opportunities for admission in the colleges and universities and reservations of quota and employment.

Religious Freedom

6. The Government should provide an equal ground for all religious communities in the media, education and other spheres of

national life for propagation of their faith. The law must take its course and justice should be ensured in all incidents, which pose threats to the religious freedom of the citizens of Pakistan. Stopping state agencies and non-state actors from interfering with people's right to religious freedom would be an imperative.

Hate Speech

7. The laws meant to maintain peace and harmony must be properly implemented.

8. The steps such as stopping provocation through loud speakers banning extremist outfits, and seizing the hate mongering literature must be intensified, evaluated and their success must be ensured.

Discriminatory Legislation

9. We demand an amendment in the Constitution of Pakistan so that it acknowledges the diversity (multi-religious, multi-cultural, multi-national, and multi-ethnic & linguistic status) of the Pakistani society. The Constitution must make no preferences among the citizens on the basis of religion. Therefore; we ask for the repeal of Article 2, Article 31, Article 31-D, Article 41, Article 203, Article 203 A-J, Article 227 and Article 260.

10. We demand a repeal of all legislation in the name of Islam, which has been proven to be unjust namely Hudood Ordinance, Blasphemy laws (Section 295 B, C and 298 A, B and C), Law of Evidence, Shariat Act 1991, Qanoon-e-Shahadat and Qisas and Diyat Ordinance.

11. We also demand abolition of policies styled on the religious basis for example the granting of 20 extra marks for the ability to memorize the Holy Quran by heart (Hafiz), six months rebate to prisoners on learning the Holy Quran and visit of the Government functionaries to religious sites on the state expenses.

12. We strongly urge the Government that prohibition laws should be revised on the basis of logic and present realities of the Pakistani society, rather than any religious interpretation.

Blasphemy Laws

13. a) Besides repeal or thorough amendment of the Blasphemy laws to stop the massive abuse, we demand that the Government should pay an appropriate compensation to the victims of Blasphemy laws for their economic, social and psychological losses.

b) the government should also commission a study to bring together a comprehensive data on the efforts of blasphemy laws in Pakistan.

Crimes against women

14. We demand that a legal protection and remedy should be provided against forced conversions.

Land Grabbing and Evictions

15. Protection of Communal Properties Ordinance 2002 should be discussed and tabled in the parliament for enactment. Moreover its implementation in letter and spirit must be ensured so that it does not become a source of nuisance. Each case of land grabbing of communal property must be properly dealt with and punished in accordance with law.

16. We urge the Government to consider allotment of land, for housing, places of worship, community gatherings, graveyards and agriculture to all members of religious minorities through affirmative action.

About the Education and Curriculum

17. Prejudices and biases on the account of religion, sect and gender in the curriculum should be removed. The Education policy making Islamic studies compulsory with Arabic as an essential part and the choice of Ethics for Non Muslim students isolates and enhances discrimination against the minorities. For this reason, NCJP recommends that the religious studies only be offered at college and university levels as an optional subject but not as a compulsory subject. The syllabus content should show an equal respect to all religions, or, there should be no reference to a particular religion.

18. In a multi-religious society like Pakistan, the curriculum should focus on Universal human values and the religious education can be the responsibility of the family and the respective religious community institutions. The Government should arrange the religious education of the minority students of each community according to their respective faiths, which is their right under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child signed by Pakistan (1990).

19. Discriminatory policies such as awarding extra marks to Hafiz-e-Quran should be abandoned or alternative concessions should be provided to minority students.

Personal Laws

20. Family or personal laws for religious minorities in Pakistan should be reviewed by a competent and representative Review Commission to check injustices against minority citizens through abuse of these laws and procedures, to see that these personal laws comply with human rights standards and prevent the overriding effect of the personal law of the majority community.

21. The application of religious jurisprudence of one group on the other will always be a problem, e.g. Hudood Ordinances, Qisas and Diyat, Law of Evidence. Moreover the overriding effect of the Muslim personal laws on those of religious minorities has no justification. Therefore all criminal laws based on religion should be removed and legal safeguards provided to the religious minorities against the abuse of personal laws.

22. Family laws should be enacted for Kalash and other communities who are not governed by any such laws. Sikh and Hindu Personal Laws should provide for a marriage registration / certificate.

23. In order to vitalize the institution of family and stop malpractices and enable marriage without mandatory conversions, a Common Civil Code should be enacted to make it possible for the citizens to contract a civil marriage, interfaith and otherwise.

24. The Government should sponsor a training / awareness campaign on the personal laws and customs of religious minorities for the subordinate judiciary and prosecution officers. Police training should include a course on the problems of religious minorities in order to sensitize them to be able to handle gross injustices to the minorities.

25. A literacy drive for the all poor women, including minority women, in target areas should be commenced to address the issues of gender, violence and sexual harassment.

Labor rights

26. The Bonded Labor Act 1992 and the regulations must be implemented in letter and spirit. Moreover the Brick kiln owners, landlords and other employers maintaining bonded labor must be brought to justice by the State.

27. The Government should bring a labor friendly labor policy in consultation with labor organizations.

Participation in national mainstreams

28. The term minority must be used in the wider meaning and if their representation is considered necessary, all minorities (ethnic, linguistic, national and indigenous) should be given representatives in all tiers of governance and decision making.

29. Measures should be taken to ensure economic empowerment of all minorities through reservations of seats (quota) in colleges, universities and Government jobs at all levels.

30. The political parties must involve religious minorities in the general elections by awarding tickets to minority candidates on general seats for National and Provincial Assemblies.

(Annex 1)
Victims of blasphemy laws in 2011-2012
Christian victims of blasphemy law

Sr.	Name	Gender	District	Section	Date	Allegation	Status	Source
1	Uzma & Mother	2 Female	Lahore	Allegation	15/01/11	Derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Resolved/negotiation	Express Tribune
2	Agnes Bibi	Female	Faisalabad	295-A PPC	16/02/11	Derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Acquitted in 2012	NCJP
3	Shahbaz Bhatti (Federal Minister)	Male	Islamabad	--	02/03/11	Raise voice for amendments in Blasphemy laws	Shot dead in Islamabad	NCJP
4	Arif Masih	Male	Faisalabad	295-C PPC	05/04/11	Inviting local Muslims to become Christians through a letter and ripping pages of Holy Quran	Released after trial	NCJP
5	Mushtaq / Farrukh Gill	2 Male	Gujranwala	Allegation	14/04/11	Desecration of Quranic verses and derogatory remarks against Islam	Released after investigation	NCJP
6	Baber Masih	Male	Sahiwal	298/298-A PPC	02/05/11	Derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Released on bail	Asia News
7	Guizar Masih	Male	Sialkot	Allegation	12/05/11	Defiling the Holy Quran	Resolved/negotiation	Pak. Christian T.V
8	Dildar Masih	Male	Khanewal	298-A PPC, 16 MPO	01/07/11	Desecration the Kalma-e-Tayyaba	Arrested / acquitted	Asia News
9	Faryal Tauseef	Female	Abbotabad	Allegation	26/09/11	Wrote word in exam that was misunderstood	At unknown place	Daily Dawn
10	Barkat Masih	Male	Bahawalpur	295-C PPC	01/10/11	Blasphemy allegations	Arrested/acquitted	WVIP
11	Khurram Masih	Male	Lahore	295-B PPC	05/12/11	Burnt the pages of the Holy Quran	Arrested	PCP
12	Mumtaz	Male	Sargodha	Allegation	21/12/11	Blasphemy allegations	Resolved/ negotiation	NCJP
13	Sajjad Masih	Male	Pakpattan	295-C PPC	23/12/11	Sent blasphemous mobile messages	Arrested	Ahmadiyya Times
01	Saira Khokhar	Female	Lahore	Allegation	02/23/12	Accused of burning a copy of the Holy Quran	Released after investigation/ lost job / relocated	NCJP
02	Shamim Bibi	Female	Bahawalnagar	295-C PPC	13/03/12	Derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Bail	Pakistan Today
03	Pervaiz Bashir	Male	Sargodha	Allegation	28/03/12	Blasphemy allegations	Shifted to another city	NCJP
04	Jamil Masih	Male	Sheikhupura	Allegation	01/04/12	Blasphemy allegations over dispute with a man who teased Christian girl	Released after investigation	NCJP
05	Asif Masih	Male	Gojra	25-D (TA)	07/05/12	Blasphemy against the Holy Prophet	Acquittal	NCJP
06	Sajad Masih	Male	Sheikhupura	295-B PPC	19/05/12	Burnt pages of the Holy Quran	Arrested/released after investigation	NCJP

07	Ramzan Masih S/o Chiragh Masih	Male	Sheikhupura	295-C PPC	09/06/12	Blasphemy allegations to grab land	NK	PCP
08	Pastor Joshua	Male	Sialkot	Allegation	29-06-12	Used Quranic verses to compare the teachings in sermon	Arrested/ released after reconciliation	CLAAS
09	Zafar Bhatti	Male	Rawalpindi	295-C PPC	27/07/12	Allegation of sending blasphemous SMS to a Muslim cleric	Arrested	NCJP
10	Rimsha	Female	Islamabad	295-B PPC	16/08/12	Desecration of Noorani Qaida	Islamabad High Court acquitted	NCJP
11	Ryan Brian	Male	Karachi	295-C PPC	12/10/12	Blasphemous message	In hiding	NCJP
12	Pastor Karam Din	Male	Sangla Hill	295-A PPC	15/10/12	Blasphemous remarks against Eid-ul-Azha in his sermon	Arrested	NCJP

Muslim victims of blasphemy law

Sr.	Name	Gender	District	Section	Date	Allegation	Status	Source
1	Muhammad Amjad / (Muhammad Nazir father) / Muhammad Iqbal (relative)	3 Male	Muzaffargarh	109/295-B PPC	05/01/11	Set the Holy Quran on fire	Arrested	Daily Times
2	Ghulam Abbas	Male	Sheikhupura	295-A PPC	08/01/11	Insulting the Holy personages	Arrested	CLAAS
3	Muhammad Javed	Male	Bhakkar	Allegation	17/01/11	Sent a blasphemous message	Not arrested	Daily Dawn
4	Amar Ali & wife	A couple	Sialkot	Allegation	18/01/11	Desecrating Holy Quran / Hadith	N.K	Daily Times
5	Haq Nawaz	Male	Faisalabad	295-B PPC	28/01/11	Blasphemy allegations	Arrested	CLAAS
6	Syed Samiullah	Male	Karachi	295-C PPC	29/01/11	Written blasphemous remarks in his exam's answer-sheets	Arrested	Daily Dawn
7	Shahnawaz/Ilyas	Male	Mansehra	N.K	31/01/11	Stole copies of Holy Quran & buried them	Arrested	Daily Dawn
8	Marvi Sirmed	Female	Islamabad	Allegation	31/01/11	Used word 'shahheed' (martyr) for Salman Taseer in text message	Not arrested	Express Tribune
9	Allah Baksh	Male	Bahawalnagar	N.K	Feb., 2011	Burnt the Holy Quran due to cold	Arrested	Friday Times
10	Shafique	Male	Okara	295-A PPC	07/02/11	Tying a shoe to a flag bearing a holy symbol	Death, fine Rs. 500,000 / appeal pending	Daily Dawn
11	Several unidentified person		Rawalpindi	2 Muslim groups belonging to sects alleged each other of committing blasphemy	07/02/11	Registered case against a Muslim sect under the blasphemy and anti-terrorism laws after a clash with their sect	2 died, 1 injured and several arrested	Pakistan Today

12	Noor Khan & Idrees	2 Male	Dera Ghazi Khan	Allegation	09/02/11	Used blasphemous language a sacred personalities	Case not registered	Daily Dawn
13	Tanveer Ahmed	Male	Rajampur	N.K	21/02/11	Disrespected the images of holy places/footprint of Holy Prophet	Arrested	Daily Dawn
14	Muhammad Aamir	Male	Rawalpindi	295-B PPC	23/02/11	Burnt a Holy Quran	Arrested	CLAAS
15	Idrees Khan	Male	Karachi	N.K	26/02/11	Burnt the pages of Holy Quran	Arrested	Express Tribune
16	Sajjad Hussain	Male	Gujranwala	295-C PPC	Feb., 2011	Blasphemous remarks against Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Acquittal	Agenzia Fides
17	Fiaz Hussain	Male	Sialkot	295-C PPC	03/03/11	Tore of a sticker printed with the name of Holy Prophet	Arrested	CLAAS
18	Muhammad Ashiq	Male	Faisalabad	295-B PPC	16/03/11	Blasphemy allegations	Arrested	CLAAS
19	Abid Shah	Male	Sialkot	N.K	25/03/11	Spoke against the companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Arrested	Staseer.wordpress.com
20	Hazrat Ali Shah	Male	Gilgit	295-A, /B/C PPC	27/03/11	Derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Death sentenced & fine Rs. 100,000	Express Tribune
21	Muhammad Fiaz	Male	Lahore	295-B PPC	29/03/11	Burnt the pages of the Holy Quran	Arrested	CLAAS
22	Ghulam Mustafa	Male	Multan	295-B PPC	30/03/11	Burnt the pages of the Holy Quran	Arrested	Daily Dawn
23	Akhtar Hussain	Male	Kasur	295-A PPC	09/04/11	Tore a copy of the Bible into pieces and tried to burn it	Arrested	Express Tribune
24	Muhammad Hussain	Male	Nowshera	N.K	09/04/11	Burnt the copies of the Holy Quran	Arrested	The News
25	Abdullah	Male	Mardan	295-B PPC	20/04/11	Desecration of the Holy Quran	Arrested	The News
26	Ahad Cheema (DCO)	Male	Lahore	Allegation	24/04/11	Desecration of the Holy Prophet's (PBUH) name on hoardings, etc. of the organization removed on the orders of the DCO	The Sunni Ethad Council will litigate against DCO	Pakistan Today
27	Saiful Malook	Male	Hangu (KP)	Not known	27/04/11	Desecration of the Holy Quran	Arrested	Ahmadiyya Times
28	Haji Muhammad Sher Khan	Male	Faisalabad	295-B PPC	30/04/11	Burnt the verses of the Holy Quran	Arrested	CLAAS
29	Muhammad Arshad	Male	Faisalabad	295-B PPC	N.K	Disgracing the Holy Quran	Arrested	CLAAS
30	Irfan Raifque	Male	Lahore	295-C PPC	27/05/11	Sent blasphemous text messages	Arrested	Express Tribune
31	Basharat	Male	Sargodha	295-A/298-A TA	19/05/11	Sent text messages that contained blasphemous content about the companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Arrested	Express Tribune
32	Mulazam Sultan	Male	Jhang	295-B PPC	01/07/2011	Blasphemy accused	Arrested	CLAAS
33	Samina Ghurki, Haji Nasir & Zulfiqar Naqvi	1 Female 2 Male	Lahore	Allegation	05/07/11	Blasphemy against the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and his followers	Cleric demanded a cases against them	Daily Times
34	S. (name withheld)	Male	Karachi	Allegation	05/07/11	Burnt a copy of the Holy Quran	Arrested	Express Tribune
35	Rafiq Ahmed	Male	Rahim Yar Khan	295 PPC	06/07/11	Used pages from Quran to clean mirrors at his shop	Arrested	Human rights first

36	Tehmina Durani	Female	Lahore	Allegation	10/07/11	Wrote a book against pirs (respected personalities) titled Blasphemy	Demanded government to cancel her citizenship	Pakistan Today
37	Population Welfare Minister Punjab, Zakia Shahmawaz, Secretary Javed Akhtar / D-G Umar Rasool	3 Male	Lahore	Allegation	13/07/11	Accusing of committing blasphemy as they published the ad which insulted the beard	Tahaful-e-Namooos-e-Risalat demanded registration of FIR under blasphemy laws against the officials	Express Tribune
38	Manzoor Ahmad	Male	Lahore	295-B/436 PPC	N. K	Disgracing the Holy Quran	Arrested	CLAAS
39	Muhammad Asim	Male	Lahore	295-B PPC	N.K	Blasphemy allegations	Arrested	CLAAS
40	A owner of printing press & his colleague	2 Male	Karachi	295-A PPC	30/07/11	Printed sketches of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his companions	Arrested	Pakistan Today
41	Rizwan	Male	Faisalabad	N.K	21/09/11	Burnt the pages of the Holy Quran	Arrested	Express Tribune
42	Muhammad Akram	Male	Faisalabad	295-B PPC	22/09/11	Burnt the Holy Quran	Arrested	Express Tribune
43	Junaid Ahmed	Male	Chakwal	N.K	04/10/11	Burning the pages of Holy Quran	Arrested	Daily Dawn
44	Dr. Zulfiqar Mirza (former Sindh Home Minister)	Male	Karachi	Allegation	22/10/11	Blasphemous remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	A report registered against accused later dismissed by Sessions judge	Pakistan Today
45	Amjad & his wife	A couple	Sialkot	295-C PPC	08/12/11	Derogatory words against Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)	Arrested	Pakistan Today
46	Muhammad Zafar Zaidi	Male	Karachi	295-C/296/298A PPC	11/12/11	Sent blasphemous text messages	Arrested	Daily Dawn
47	Abdul Sattar	Male	Larkana	295-A/B/C PPC	22/06/11	Blasphemy	Death Sentence and fine Rs.50,000	Daily Dawn
48	Rafiq	Male	Jalalpur Peerwala, District Multan	295-C/298-A PPC	2/2/11	Blasphemy	Death sentenced, fined 200,000 and additional fined 10,000 under 298-A	Daily Dawn
49	Muhammad Ishaq	Male	Bahawalpur	295-B PPC	06/01/11	Blasphemy	Life imprisonment	Daily Dawn
01	Abid Hussain, Mohammad Hussain, Tasawar Hussain, Asghar Abbas / Mirza Hussain	5 Male	Kotri	N.K	18/01/12	Using offensive language against the companions of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Arrested	Express Tribune
02	Irfan Rafiq (a mentally challenged)	Male	Lahore	Allegation	17/03/12	Sent sacrilegious SMS against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Supreme Court directed police to shift him to Mental Hospital, Lahore	The News

03	Ifkhar Ali (Shia)	Male	Okara	N.K	05/04/12	Uttering blasphemous words against holy figures	Arrested	The News
04	Shuja Abbas / Nasir Multani (Shia)	2 Male	Khushab	N.K	10/04/12	Uttering derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet in speeches.	Multan accused of blasphemy against Holy Prophet while Abbas for abetting by organizing the religious meeting	Express Tribune
05	Imran	Male	Faisalabad	295-B PPC	24/04/12	Defiling pages of the Holy Quran	Arrested	Express Tribune
06	Sheikh Asif	Male	Lodhran	295-C PPC	09/01/12	Insult to Holy Prophet (PBUH) by claiming to be a prophet	Arrested	Express Tribune
07	Mentally retarded	Male	Quetta	Not known	16/06/12	Committing blasphemy	Arrested	Express Tribune
08	Muhammad Saleem	Male	Karachi	295-B PPC	17/06/12	Defiling the Holy Quran	Arrested	Daily Dawn
09	Faryad Ali	Male	Faisalabad	295-C PPC	03/07/12	Committed blasphemous acts	Arrested	Express Tribune
10	Ghulam Abbas (Mentally challenged)	Male	Channi goth, Bahawalpur	Allegation,	04/07/12	Threw pages from the Holy Quran onto the street	Arrested, burnt alive after tortured by mob	Express Tribune
11	Haji Nasurullah (a businessman)	Male	Hyderabad	295-B/C PPC	19/09/12	Refused to be a part of rally against anti-Islam film	Arrested	Daily Dawn
12	Dr Sajjad Kausar (Acting Principal of National College of Arts, NCA)	Male	Lahore	Allegation	11/10/12	Publishing some sacrilegious images in the college's annual magazine.	Court bars Principal from going abroad till decision on petition to register a case	The News
13	Asim Farooqi	Male	Lahore	295-C PPC	31/10/12	Using blasphemous wording in a question paper	Arrested/released on bail	Express Tribune
14	Ms. Arfa Ifkhar	Female	Lahore	295-C PPC	31/10/12	Using blasphemous wording in a question paper	In hiding	Express Tribune
15	Muharram Procession	72-Male	Multan	295 A PPC	27/11/12	Alleged of blasphemy during a scuffle between the procession mourners and locals	FIR lodged	Express Tribune
16	Dr. Ifkhar A. Khan	Male	Rawalpindi	295-C PPC	09/12/12	Wrote a blasphemous book	Arrested	The News
17	A Muslim man	Male	Dadu	Case not registered	22/12/12	Desecration of Holy Quran	Burnt alive	Express Tribune
18	Hamid Hussain	Male	Karachi	295-A/298-A/34 PPC	29/12/12	Publishing & distributing a booklet against the Holy personages & companions of the Holy Prophet	Arrested	AHRC
19	Sufi Muhammad Ishaq Shah	Male	Talagang, Chakwal	295-A/C PPC	20/01/12	Claiming to be a prophet	Death and fine Rs. 200,000	CLAAS/ Dawn
20	Manzar ul Haq Shah	Male	Kasur	295-C PPC	17/03/12	Blasphemy	Life imprisonment/ fine Rs. 200,000	Pakistan Today

Ahmadi victims of Blasphemy law

Sr.	Name	Gender	District	Section	Date	Allegation	Status	Source
01	Muhammad Ahmad Bhatti	Male	Nawab Shah	Allegation	01/10/11	Desecration verses of the Holy Quran	N.K	Ahmadi community report
02	Rabia	Female	Lahore	Allegation	22/11/11	Tore up hurtful anti-Ahmadiyya poster in the premises of college	Left up the college	Ahmadi community report
03	Rana Sajeel Ahmad	Male	Khushab	295-C PPC	15/12/11	Derogatory remarks against the Holy Prophet (PBUH)	Proclaimed offender	Ahmadi community report
04	Rana Hakim Jameel	Male	Khushab	298-C PPC	14/12/11	Described his son as Muslim in his school admission form	Proclaimed offender	Ahmadi community report
05	Basharat Ahmed	Male	Gujrat	295-B PPC	24/12/11	Defiling the Holy Quran	Arrested	Express Tribune
					2012			
01	Inayatullah Sabri/ Amir Shehzad	2 Male	Mandi Bahaudin	298-C PPC	03/02/12	Preaching Ahmadiyya faith	Arrested	Ahmadiyya Times
02	Muhammad Ashraf	Male	Sargodha	295-A/298-C PPC	07/08/12	Posing as a Muslim and for displaying a translation of a Quranic text in his shop	Bail after paying a surety of Rs. 50,000	Ahmadiyya Times
03	Rubina Jabeen & Syeda Tasneem Kausar (Nursing instructors)	2 Female	Lahore	295-A/ 298-C PPC	29/05/12	Preaching Ahmadiyya faith inside the college	Pre-arrest bail/ under court proceedings	Pakistan Today

Abbreviations: NCJP: National Commission for Justice and Peace

PCP: Pakistan Christian Post

AHRC: Asian Human Rights Commission

WWIP: World Vision in Progress

CLAAS: Center for Legal Aid Assistance and Assistance

PPC: Pakistan Penal Code

MPO: Maintenance of Public Order

TA: Telegraph Act

Victims of Blasphemy Laws (Summary 2011- 2012)

Years	2011	2012
Christian		Victims
Male	11	09
Female	04	03
Sub-Total	15	12
Muslim		
Male	54	95
Female	05	01
Sub-Total	59	96
Ahmadi		
Male	04	03
Female	01	02
Sub-Total	05	05
Total	79	113

Persons killed after blasphemy allegations (1990-2012) (Annex 2)

Ahmadi Victims (1990-2012)

Sr. #	Name	District	Nature of allegation	Year	Killed by	Total
01	Adnan Ahmad	Sargodha	295-C	1995	Murdered	1
02	Zafar Ahmad	Dadu	295-C	2000	Murdered	1
03	Iqbal Butt	Sheikhupura	N.K	16/04/12	Murder after acquitting	1
Sub-Total						3

Sr. #	Name	District	Nature of allegation	Year	Killed by	Total
Christian Victims (1990-2012)						
01	Tahir Iqbal	Lahore	295-B & C	Dec, 1990	Poisoning in jail	1
02	Babu Bantu Masih	Lahore	295-C	1991	Stabbed in police station	1
03	Naymat Ahmer Masih	Faisalabad	295-C	Jan., 1992	Stabbed to death	1
04	Manzoor Masih	Gujranwala	295-C	05/04/94	Shot dead	1
05	Mukhtar Masih (a relative of a blasphemy victim)	Lahore	-	Nov, 1995	Killed in police custody in reported heart attack	1
06	Mushtaq Masih	Sheikhupura	-	01/10/03	Murdered	1
07	Samuel Masih	Lahore	295-B	28/05/04	Killed in police custody	1
08	Simon Emmanuel	Toba Tek Singh	-	09/01/08	Brother of blasphemy accused, shot by assailant	1
09	Hameed Masih, Parveen Victor, Asyia Mohsin, Asifa Almas, Akhlias Hameed, Umia Almas & Musa Almas	Gojra	295 B	31/07/09	7 people burnt alive	7
10	Fanish Robert	Sialkot	295-B	09/11/09	Killed in police custody	1
11	Rashid Emmanuel & Sajid Emmanuel	Faisalabad	295-C	01/07/10	Shot dead in the Sessions Court	2
12	Shahbaz Bhatti	Islamabad	-	02/03/11	Shot dead by unidentified assailants	1
13	Qamar David	Karachi	295-C	15/04/11	Died in Landhi Jail, Karachi	1
Sub-Total						20

Hindu Victims (1990-2012)

Sr. #	Name	District	Nature of allegation	Year	Killed by	Total
01	Jagdish Kumar	Karachi	295-C	08/04/08	Murdered by colleagues	1
Sub-Total						1

Muslim Victims (1990-2012)

Sr. #	Name	District	Nature of allegation	Year	Killed by	Total
01	Hafiz Sajjad Farooq	Gujranwala	295-B	21/04/95	Lynched by mob	1
02	Justice (R) Arif Iqbal Bhatti	Lahore	-	19/10/97	Assassinated after acquitting two blasphemy accused	1
03	Mentally retarded women	Rahim Yar Khan	295-B	1999	Burnt alive by mob	1
04	Pandu Khan	Gujranwala	295-C	2001	Reportedly committed suicide in jail	1
05	Zahid Hamid Khan	Bahawalpur	-	13/05/02	Murdered by nephew who dreamt that he desecrated Prophet tomb	1
06	Yousaf Ali	Lahore	295-A-B-C	10/06/02	Murdered in prison	1
07	Zahid Shah	Chak Jhumra	295-B	05/07/02	Stoned to death by mob	1
08	Saeed Bhatti	Lahore	-	19/09/02	Murdered	1
09	Muhammad Asghar Ali	Gujranwala	-	04/11/02	Murdered by a police constable	1
10	Moulvi Sanaulah	Kasur	295-C	2002	Murdered	1
11	Mushtaq Ahmad	Lahore	-	06/02/03	Murdered	1
12	Ashaq Nabi	Nowshera	295-B	20/4/05	Murdered	1
13	Master Sadiq	Hasilpur	295-B	15/06/06	Killed by mob	1
14	Abdul Sattar Gopang	Muzaffargarh	295-B	16/06/06	Stabbed to death by two assailants	1
15	Anees Mallah	Sanghar	295-C	03/04/09	Killed by jail inmates / tortured before being shot dead	1
16	Mian Qasim Insari	Gujrat	295-C	6/06/09	Murdered by a police constable	1
17	Sheikh Najeeb/ factory worker	Sheikhupura	295-B	04/08/09	Murdered	2
18	Imran Latif	Lahore	295-B	15/11/10	Shot dead by unidentified assailants	1
19	Governor Salman Taseer	Islamabad	295-C	04/01/11	Shot dead by his security guard	1
20	2 Muslim sects blamed each other of committing blasphemy	Rawalpindi	-	07/02/11	The clash resulted in death of two persons	2
21	Muhammad Imran	Rawalpindi	295-C	05/03/11	Shot dead	1
22	Shaukat Ali(mentally retarded)	Lahore	-	18/07/11	Died in Lahore camp jail	1
23	Ghulam Abbas (mentally retarded)	Channigoth, Bahawalpur	295-B	04/07/12	Arrested / lynched by mob & burnt after tortured to death	1
24	Usman Memon	Dadu	295-B	22/12/12	Accused of burning Holy Quran/ Burnt alive by mob	1
Sub-Total						26

Religion not known (1990-2012)

Sr. #	Name	District	Nature of allegation	Year	Killed by	Total
01	Nadeem	Nankana Sahib	No case registered	03/12/12	Accused of burning Holy Quran/ died due to serious illness in police custody	1
Sub-Total						1

(Summary) Persons killed after blasphemy allegations 1990-2012

Sr. #	Years	Christians	Muslims	Ahmadis	Hindus	Religion not known	Total
1	1990	1	-	-	-	-	1
2	1991	1	-	-	-	-	1
3	1992	1	-	-	-	-	1
4	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	1994	1	-	-	-	-	1
6	1995	1	1	1	-	-	3
7	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	1997	-	1	-	-	-	1
9	1998	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	1999	-	1	-	-	-	1
11	2000	-	-	1	-	-	1
12	2001	-	1	-	-	-	1
13	2002	-	6	-	-	-	6
14	2003	1	1	-	-	-	2
15	2004	1	-	-	-	-	1
16	2005	-	1	-	-	-	1
17	2006	-	2	-	-	-	2
18	2007	-	-	-	-	-	1
19	2008	1	-	-	1	-	2
20	2009	8	4	-	-	-	12
21	2010	2	1	-	-	-	3
22	2011	2	5	-	-	-	7
23	2012	-	2	1	-	1	3
Total		21	26	3	1	1	51

(Annex 3)

**The price and locale of ignorance
Blasphemy Victims (Province-wise) 1987-2012**

Punjab Province						
Sr. #	District	Muslim	Ahmadi	Christian	Hindu	Total
01	Faisalabad	58	34	29	--	121
02	Lahore	70	12	19	--	101
03	Sialkot	46	36	07	--	89
04	Kasur	33	14	08	--	55
05	Bahawalpur	21	18	01	02	42
06	Gujranwala	18	09	15	--	42
07	Muzaffargarh	34	03	02	--	39
08	Jhang	04	22	04	--	30
09	Sargodha	05	20	04	--	29
10	Nankana	--	23	03	--	26
11	Sheikhupura	17	03	07	--	27
12	Khanewal	16	01	03	--	20
13	Rawalpindi	14	--	07	02	23
14	Chiniot	--	17	--	--	17
15	Toba Tek Singh	04	--	13	--	17
16	Sahiwal	05	01	09	--	15
17	Pakpattan	--	--	01	--	01
18	Hafizabad	04	08	01	--	13
19	Islamabad	10	02	03	--	15
20	Narowal	09	02	02	--	13
21	Gujrat	09	04	01	--	14
22	Vehari	06	05	--	--	11
23	Rahim Yar Khan	03	08	--	--	11
24	Layyah	04	05	--	--	09
25	Okara	05	01	05	--	11
26	Multan	80	01	--	--	81
27	Bahawalnagar	05	01	03	--	09
28	D.G Khan	05	04	--	--	09

29	Jhelum	07	--	--	--	07
30	Mianwali	02	04	--	--	06
31	Khushab	03	04	--	--	07
32	Chakwal	01	02	--	--	03
33	Bhakkar	02	--	--	--	02
34	Mandi Bahauddin	01	02	--	--	03
35	Rajanpur	01	01	--	--	02
36	Attock	--	--	01	--	01
37	Lodhran	01	--	--	--	01
Sub-Total		503	267	148	04	922

Sindh Province						
Sr. #	District	Muslim	Ahmadi	Christian	Hindu	Total
01	Karachi	28	63	05	01	97
02	Mirpurkhas	05	44	--	06	55
03	Hyderabad	24	05	--	--	29
04	Sanghar	02	23	01	02	28
05	Larkana	02	21	--	--	23
06	Khairpur	--	14	--	--	14
07	Badin	--	13	--	--	13
08	Jacobabad	--	--	--	03	03
09	Nawabshah	01	02	--	--	03
10	Sukkar	01	--	01	--	02
11	Umerkot	01	01	--	--	02
12	Dadu	01	01	--	--	02
13	Qamber Shahdkot	01	--	--	--	01
14	Jamshoro	--	--	01	--	01
15	Shikarpur	01	--	--	--	01
16	Tando Allayar	01	--	--	--	01
17	Tando M. Khan	--	--	--	01	01
18	Thatta	--	--	01	--	01
19	Tharparkar	--	--	--	01	01
20	Kotri	05	--	--	--	05
Sub-Total		73	187	09	14	283

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province						
Sr. #	District	Muslim	Ahmadi	Christian	Hindu	Total
01	Peshawar	11	--	--	--	11
02	Mardan	01	--	--	--	01
03	Abbotabad	05	02	01	--	08
04	Nowshera	03	--	01	--	04
05	Swabi	01	--	--	02	03
06	Swat	02	--	--	--	02
07	Gilgit	01	--	--	--	01
08	Mansehra	02	01	--	--	03
09	Hangu	01	--	--	--	01
Sub-Total		27	03	02	02	34

Balochistan Province						
Sr. #	District	Muslim	Ahmadi	Christian	Hindu	Total
01	Quetta	04	--	--	--	04
02	Kalat	01	--	--	--	01
Sub-Total		05	--	--	--	05

Azad Jammu Kashmir						
#	District	Muslim	Ahmadi	Christian	Hindu	Total
01	Mirpur	01	--	--	--	01
Sub-Total		01	--	--	--	01

Summary

Sr. #	Punjab	Sindh	Balochistan	K.P.K	AJK	Total
01	922	283	05	34	01	1245
02	Religion/Name not known					08
Total						1253

Annex 4

TEXT BLASPHEMY LAWS

Text offences related to religion in Pakistan Penal Code (PPC)

295-B Defiling, etc, of Holy Quran: Whoever willfully defiles damages or desecrates a copy of the Holy Quran or of an extract there from or uses it in any derogatory manner or for any lawful purpose shall be punishable for imprisonment for life.

295-C: Use of derogatory remarks, etc, in respect of the Holy Prophet: whoever by words, either spoken or written, or insinuation, or by visible representation, or by any imputation, innuendo, or insinuation, directly or indirectly, defiles the sacred name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine.

298-A: Use of derogatory remarks, etc, in respect of the holy personages whoever by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation, or by any imputation, innuendo or insinuation, directly or indirectly defiles a sacred name of any wife (Umm-ul- Mumineen), or members of the family (Khulafa-e-Rashideen) or companions (Sahaaba) of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

298-B: Misuse of epithet, description and titles etc., reserved for certain holy personages or places.

1. Any person of the Qadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or by any other name) whose by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation:

- A) refers to or addresses, any person, other than a Caliph or companion of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), as "Ameer-ul-Mumneen", "Khalifa-tul-Muslimeen", "Sahaabi" or "Razi Allah Anho";
- b) refers to or addresses, any person, other than a wife of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), as 'Umm-ul-Mumineen';
- c) refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a member of the family 'Ahle-bait' of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), as Ahle-Bait; or
- d) refer to, or names, or calls, his place of worship as Masjid; shall be punished with imprisonment or either description for a term which may extend to three years, and shall also be liable to fine.

2. Any person of the Qadiani group or Lahore group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or by any other names) who by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representations, refers to the mode or from of call to prayers followed by his faith as "Azan", or recites Azan as used by the Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.

298-C: Persons of Qadiani group, etc., calling himself a Muslim or preaching or propagating his faith: Any person of the Qadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or any other name), who directly or indirectly, poses himself as a Muslim, or calls, or refers to, his faith as Islam, or preaches or propagates his faith, or invites others to accept his faith, by words either spoken or written, or by visible representation, or in any manner whatsoever outrages the religious feelings of Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.