
INCIDENT REPORT

TARGETED KILLING OF AHMADI DENTIST DR ZAKA UR REHMAN IN LALA MUSA

Date: 27 July 2024

Location: Lala Musa, District Gujrat

Summary of Incident:

On 27 July 2024, Dr Zaka Ur Rehman, a prominent Ahmadi dentist, was shot and killed at his clinic, Zaka Dental Clinic, located on GT Road in Lala Musa, Gujrat District. This targeted killing is part of a broader pattern of violence and discrimination against members of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan.

Details

Dr Rehman, 53 years old, was attending to his clinic when two unidentified individuals arrived on a motorcycle. One of the attackers entered the clinic and fired three shots at Dr Rehman, hitting him in the heart, abdomen, and arm. He succumbed to his injuries on the spot. The assailants fled immediately after the attack. Dr Rehman was a respected local official within the Ahmadiyya Community and had no personal disputes or financial conflicts. He is survived by his wife, one son, and three daughters.



Background:

The spokesperson for the Ahmadiyya Community Pakistan, Amir Mahmood, condemned the brutal killing of Dr Zaka Ur Rehman and highlighted the increasing violence against Ahmadis. In the past few months, other Ahmadis have also been murdered due to their faith. On 8 June, two Ahmadis, Ghulam Sarwar and Rahat Ahmad Bajwa, were killed in Saad Ullah Pur, Mandi Bahauddin District, and on 4 March, Tahir Iqbal Cheema was murdered in Hasilpur, Bahawalpur District. The recent Supreme Court decision to grant bail to an Ahmadi and the subsequent review of this decision have intensified the hate campaign against Ahmadis. Higher court judges are also being targeted by this malicious campaign. Despite the perpetrators being well-known, the government has not taken legal action against them.

Request for Action:

We urge the relevant authorities to:

1. Investigate the targeted killing of Dr Rehman and ensure the perpetrators are brought to justice.
2. Address the ongoing hate campaign against the Ahmadiyya Community and take legal action against those inciting hatred and violence.
3. Protect the fundamental rights of Ahmadis as enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan and uphold the rulings of the Supreme Court that safeguard religious freedom.

Conclusion:

Ahmadis in Pakistan face severe persecution and violence due to deep-rooted religious intolerance and legal discrimination. The killing of Dr Rehman is a tragic reminder of the dire situation faced by the Ahmadiyya Community. It is imperative for the Pakistani government to uphold the constitutional rights of all citizens, enforce the Supreme Court's rulings that protect religious freedom, and take stringent action against those who perpetrate such human rights violations. Promoting a culture of tolerance and coexistence through education and dialogue is essential to mitigate long-term sectarian strife and ensure the safety and dignity of all communities in Pakistan.