



PRESS RELEASE

AHMADI MUSLIMS UNDER THREAT OF IMPRISONMENT FOR CELEBRATING EID-UL-ADHA IN PAKISTAN

IHRC reported earlier that a wave of bigotry against Ahmadiis has intensified since the start of 2023 and in the past week there has been a state-sponsored and architected systematic persecution of Ahmadiis to stop them from celebrating Eid-ul-Adha and perform all the religious rituals especially sacrificing animals on this occasion. Non-state actors also joined in actively, to terrorise Ahmadiis at occasion of Eid, inciting hatred through messages and videos like this [video](#)¹, in which Ahmadiis are threatened to be imprisoned for praying and celebrating the Islamic Eid traditions.

According to the latest information IHRC has received, at least six Ahmadi Muslims have been arrested and five First Information Reports (FIRs) have been registered in Punjab, Pakistan against Ahmadi Muslims for sacrificing animals on Eid-ul-Adha. All the FIRs are registered un-der Section 298-C of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC). Two of the cases have been registered at the Saddar Gojra police station in Toba Tek Singh. There has been one registered at each of the following: Saddar Shahkot police station in Nankana Sahib, Roshanwala Police Station in Faisalabad and the Badami Bagh police station in Lahore.

Eid Festivals are times of family get-togethers and rejoicing but Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan are being fiercely persecuted for offering animal sacrifices, and this year (2023) were even barred from offering Eid prayers which is a basic tenet of their religious faith. The International Human Rights Committee recently released a report to inform the world of the brutal and barbaric treatment of Ahmadiis for offering animal sacrifices. Ahmadi Muslims continue to be terrorised by both mullahs, Tehreek e Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) and state police for the "crime" of practising their faith as Muslims. It is a never-ending cycle of extreme persecution affecting both young and old. Men, women, and children are not safe from such



Screenshot of the social media video in Pakistan, which threatens Ahmadiis for imprisonment for praying and celebrating the Islamic Eid traditions.

¹ Web link to a translated & subtitled version of the video: <https://bit.ly/AntiAhmadi012>

schemes and the latest restriction is an indication of the intention of the mullahs to deny Ahmadi Muslims their basic right of worship.

Mullahs were out on the streets with their vandals shouting abusive slogans against Ahmadis, raiding their houses, and pressuring the police to prosecute and arrest them in the lead-up to Eid. This is an attempt to forfeit all the religious rights of Ahmadis.

Most of the FIRs are regarding hearsay incidents of Ahmadi Muslims preparing to or planning to sacrifice animals. It is unfortunate to see how in some incidents even Punjab police officials are complicit, which sends the message that they are not there for everyone's security, certainly not for persecuted minorities.

The FIR registered in Faisalabad on the complaint of a Tehreek e Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) worker on the third day of Eid claimed that he saw a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community sacrificing animals and called the police. The FIR registered in Nankana Sahib was registered on the complaint of an Assistant Sub-Inspector on the first day of Eid -Ul-Adha.

IHRC was informed that the sacrificial animals were seized by the police in raids conducted on complaints of extremist individuals.

This terrible situation requires urgent international intervention. Political and faith leaders from across the world just met in London to secure Freedom of Religion and Belief for everyone worldwide yet in Pakistan there is an absolute contradiction of all the Charters on Freedom of Religion. The world must take immediate and urgent action to ensure that Ahmadis in Pakistan enjoy their full right to their religion and are able to freely practice their faith as required.

On July 13, 2021, UN human rights experts expressed their deep concern over the lack of attention to the serious human rights violations perpetrated against the Ahmadiyya community around the world and called on the international community to step up efforts in bringing an end to the ongoing persecution of Ahmadis.

We strongly urge the international community to impress upon the Government of Pakistan to honour its responsibility to provide effective protection and freedom of religious practice to Ahmadis. The extremists and Pakistani governmental authorities involved in these arrests should be brought to justice, and Pakistan should immediately bring its laws and practices in conformity with international standards as ordained by Article 20 and United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 2, 18 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Article 25, 26.

END

		<u>Citizenship no. 35202-4169761-1</u> <u>Phone: 03224199285</u> Prepared and sent by: Naeem Khan SI, Police Station Badami Bagh, Lahore
3	Brief description of offence (with section) & any property, if lost.	Offence under sections: 298C PPC (Pakistan Penal Code) 298 PPC
4	Place of occurrence, distance from police station and direction	From street no. 8, Badar Colony, Badami Bagh, distance: 1 kilometers towards north, Beat No.: 1 Beat No.:1 Hanif Park.
5	Proceeding regarding investigation, state the reason in case of any delay in registering the information.	The case has been registered according to the received application
6	Date & Time of departure from Police station	Through special report.

Signature: Shehzad Naeem Bhatti **Belt No.** 1002L **Designation:** ASI **Ph No.** 03004405750

(State the first information below)

To the SHO, Police Station Badami Bagh, Lahore.

Sir,

It is stated that I am Noman Umar son of Muhammad Jamil and am a resident of Badami Bagh. Tonight, nearly at 8 pm, a friend of mine called and told me that 1- Ghazanfar Ali son of Asghar Ali, 2-Dawood son of Asghar Ali, 3- Zubair son of Asghar Ali, who are residents of street no. 8, house no. 17, Badar Colony and belong to Qadiyani religion, were slaughtering a calf in their home, on Eid ul Adha. Whereas Qadiyanis are neither allowed to call themselves as Muslim nor can they slaughter animal on Eid ul Adha. I went to the site and confirmed the report. Ghazanfar Ali and others were processing meat of slaughtered animal in the yard of their home. Hence, I called on 15 and police officers arrived at the scene. They be prosecuted against and be penalized accordingly.

The applicant, Signed in English with thumb impression.

Police Action: I, along with other policemen, i.e. Muhammad Farook SI, Muhammad Navid C/28017, Abdul Jabbar C/9353, was present at Khokhar Road, for patrolling, when the call was received on 15. We then reached street no. 8, house no. 17, Badar Colony, and saw that Ghazanfar Ali, Dawood and Zubair were engaged in slaughtering a calf and processing meat afterwards, as was identified by the applicant. They were taken into custody with the help of fellow policemen. The meat, a head and a skin were seized from the site for the purpose of evidence and a possession certificate was made. By slaughtering the animal and by posing as Muslim, the said persons Ghazanfar Ali etc., have committed a crime under sections 289C/298 PPC. The application is hand delivered by Navid Ahmad C/28017 to the police station for the registration of a case. A case be registered, and the investigation be delegated to the investigation wing. An investigating officer be sent to the site where I am present

right now, along with the fellowmen. Moreover, a special report be sent to the higher authorities.

Signed in Urdu by Naeem Khan SI, Police Station Badami Bagh, Lahore. Dated 1.7.2023, from street no. 8, Badar Colony, Badami Bagh at 12:03 am.

From Police Station: On receiving the written application, a case is registered. The original application with the copy of FIR, is being sent back to In Charge Investigation Wing. The SHO has been informed about this case. Moreover, a special report has been prepared and is being sent to the higher authorities.

Shehzad Naeem Bhatti ASI
01-07-2023

ANNEXURE C:

First information report (FIR) against Ahmadis on celebrating Eid ul Adha 2023 in Roshanwala, Faisalabad, Pakistan with translation

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

Honorable SHO of Faisalabad Roshanwala.

Complainant Ghulam Mustafa resident of chak no 82 Balaki . Against tanvir Ahmad so Bashir Ahmad resident of Chak 82 Babr Chok Batala Colony Faisalabad with 3 other unknown people.

It is requested that action be taken against incident occurred at Chak 82 Balaki.

Respected sir,

I am resident of Chak 75 and Head of Tahreek e Labbaik Pakistan UC 129. Tanvir Ahmad who belongs to the Qadiani religion. They were sacrificing a bull at the farmhouse of Tanvir at the eve of Eid ul adha. Whereas Qadianis cannot identify as Muslims, neither can they offer sacrifice on Eid. When I went to check myself, Tanvir Ahmad etc were busy in cutting meat. Me and my fellows – Mahboob Alam and Muhammad Imran called on 15 helpline and the police officers came promptly. Upon seeing them Tanvir Ahmad etc fled from the incident. Tanvir Ahmad's farmhouse is Chak No 82 Balaki. It is requested that the accused be punished. Complainant Ghulam Mustafa Resident Chak No. 75 Tehsil and District Faisalabad. Signed and thumb print.

Police account - I with Shabbir ahmad C/5259 Muhammad arshad C/3058 Muhammad Afzal C/4005 are present at Chak 82 Balaki. Complainant has given me aforementioned complaint. It appears through complaint and circumstances that a crime has been committed under PPC 298-C. Therefore, it is requested to register an FIR through Muhammad Afzal HC/4005. After registering FIR, it should be forwarded to me for investigation. Also, the clerk should give a special report to senior officers. From Chak 82 Balaki at 10 am. Ghulam Jafar SI police station Roshanwala, Faisalabad. Date 01.07.2023

After registering FIR, the complaint is being forwarded for investigation and superior officers have been notified and the respected SHO has been notified.