

Persecution of Ahmadis in Pakistan

News Report December 2011

Murder of an Ahmadi woman

Chobara, District Layyah; December 5, 2011: Ms. Maryam Khatoon was attacked and killed here by a group. She was 26 and a mother of three children.

Ms Maryam lived in a residential area which is owned by an Ahmadi. Several Ahmadi families reside here. Ahmadiyya mosque and the residence of Ahmadi missionary is also found in the same neighborhood.

This area was acquired by Mr. Muhammad Khan, Ahmadi 40 years ago and developed into a residential estate. Someone else recently acquired adjacent land and laid frivolous claim to some plots in Mr. Khan's area. A court upheld Mr. Khan's claim. The opposition party, however, secured help of a police officer, some politicians and a few mullas, and attempted taking over by force what was not his by law. The force turned into attack that took an innocent life.

The attacking party has fled the village after the murder. A police sub-inspector Ashiq Baloch has reportedly helped the attackers to flee.

This murder of an Ahmadi is another one of a series in which the crime is committed under the patronage of some politicians, support of a few mullas and the connivance of police.

A fabricated case of blasphemy

Khushab: The plight of Rana Sajeel Ahmad, a high school student in Khushab and his father was reported in the last month's report. It is now learnt that the police have registered a case under the blasphemy clause PPC 295-C against the teen-ager while his father has been charged under the anti-Ahmadiyya clause PPC 298-C. In addition both the accused and Asfand Yar, a brother of young Sajeel Ahmad, were charged under 16 MPO a few days earlier during the investigation. This case is as baleful and menacing as that of Aasia Bibi. It is based entirely on fabricated accusation and false witnesses.

Briefly, a gang of students beat up Rana Sajeel Ahmad of Public High School Khushab in a quarrel on November 23, 2011. When he complained, they accused him of proselytizing and alleged blasphemy. They attributed to him the fabricated statement of: 'Your prophet is false; my prophet is true.' This all was done with the support of mullas of the Khatme Nabuwwat faction, whose Amir accused Ahmad's father, Mr. Hakim Jamil of writing Ahmad's faith as 'Islam' in his school admission form. There is evidence that the incident was precipitated as a result of property dispute.

After making written complaints to the police the mullas turned to their 'standard operating procedure'. They held rallies in which they declared that if the police did not register the blasphemy case, they would take out processions and rallies. They declared that the two accused were *Wajib-ul-Qatl* (must be put to death). They issued a resolution (translation): "If the police do not register a blasphemy case against Rana Sajeel and Rana Hakim Jamil, they will be responsible for all that would happen to both. We are prepared to go to any length to protect the honour of the Prophet." The mullas sent their emissaries, armed with this resolution, to other towns in the district.

As a result of these activities, and the police failure to handle the mullas firmly, the law and order situation in the town became delicate. The two accused felt that their lives were under threat, so they went into hiding. The police decided to placate the miscreants further.

The DPO sent for both the parties. Ahmadiyya delegation met the DPO on December 12, 2011, but did not present the accused for fear of their safety. Their opponents arrived in a huge crowd and presented their false witnesses well-briefed. The DPO was more concerned with maintaining calm than with dispensation of justice. He ordered that the two accused and Mr. Asfand Yar be booked under 16 MPO, and that Sajeel be presented. The police arrested Asfand Yar who was not even accused by the mullas, to compel the family to deliver the two accused, who decided to avoid exposure to the lynch mob.

A few days later, the police booked Rana Sajeel Ahmad under PPC 295-C the blasphemy clause and his father Rana Hakim Jamil under PPC 298-C the anti-Ahmadiyya clause. Asfand Yar remains detained by the police who say that he will be released if Sajeel is presented. That is the Pakistani way: arrest an innocent member of the family to force them to deliver the accused, even if the charges are entirely false. The Express Tribune of December 15, 2011 reported the event at length under the headlines: **Blasphemy charges: Out of fear, Ahmadi family on the run. Blasphemy allegations continue to haunt minorities in Pakistan.**

There is reason to believe that the DPO knows that the blasphemy accusation against Sajeel is false, as no Ahmadi would ever say that Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.) was a false prophet, but to avoid unrest and protect his career, he, like most others, opted to pass the case to the court to decide. The much-trumpeted procedure, under rule section 156-A requiring a Superintendent of Police to investigate the accusation prior to charging an accused failed once again. It would fail almost every time, the unworthy drafters of this Rule designed it that way.

Desecration of graveyard

Dunyapur, District Lodhran; December 4, 2011: Some miscreants entered the Ahmadiyya graveyard here, damaged the graves and broke the tombstones on seven graves.

This graveyard came into being in 1976. It has 29 graves. The sacrilege was reported to the police who recovered broken pieces of the tombstones.

The Ahmadiyya spokesman expressed great concern over the incident and stated that even Ahmadi dead are not being spared maltreatment and insult. "Twenty-nine offensive cases against the dead have happened since the promulgation of the anti-Ahmadiyya ordinance," he said. Ahmadis of Dunyapur are facing opposition from mullas who keep on harassing them in various ways. This will stop only when the infamous anti-Ahmadiyya laws are removed from the statute book.

The press reported the incident the next day. The Express Tribune of December 5, 2011 filed this story under the heading: **For minorities in Pakistan, persecution never ends.**

Baseless police case against an Ahmadi teacher

Kang Chanan, District Gujrat; December 17, 2011: Mr. Basharat Ahmad was booked under PPC 295-B on false allegation of desecration of the Quranic verses in FIR no. 765 in police station Kunjah, district Gujrat on December 17, 2011.

Mr. Basharat is serving as a headmaster in the local government high school. He is accused of throwing students' books containing Arabic inscriptions in muddy water, thereby committing blasphemy. "It was an Arabic test that day, and we placed the books aside which were thrown out by him", the troublesome students stated.

The facts are otherwise. That day it was a test of English, and not Arabic. A few students were cheating from the books openly. Mr. Basharat Ahmad snatched those books from them and put them away. The students sought support from a mulla, agitated against their supervisor and succeeded in getting a baseless case filed against him. Approximately thirty teachers supported Mr. Basharat against the accusation of blasphemy. Despite all this the SHO registered the case saying that he was under pressure from mullas as well as higher officials.

Address lists of Ahmadis circulated by vigilantes

Sargodha and Pachnand in District Chakwal:

a. Mullas of Majlis Ahrar and Khatme Nabuwwat factions have been active throughout the year in Pachnand against the Ahmadis living there. They spread hate literature, took out rallies and even attacked the Ahmadiyya mission house there. Ahmadis kept the police informed who maintained a lenient attitude towards those religious bullies.

The undeterred mullas of Majlis Ahrar Islam have recently taken a big leap forward in their threat to the law and order in Pachnand by distribution of pamphlets in which the addresses and identity information of all the Ahmadi local male population is printed. Every Ahmadi household is mentioned along with its members by name, caste, profession and residential location. In all, 35 Ahmadis are listed. The hate-promoting pamphlet urges the ‘Muslims’ to boycott Ahmadis in all fields of human dealing and exhorts them to spare no sacrifice, financial or physical, to safeguard the End of Prophethood. It calls Ahmadis apostates and traitors to the cause of Islam.

The publishers of this pamphlet have printed their addresses as below:

Tehrik Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat, Majlis Ahrar Islam Pachnand Phone 0300-5755515
Majlis Ahrar Islam, Masjid Syedna Abu Bakr Siddique, Tala Gang (Gharb) Phone: 0300-4716780 and 0300-5780390

b. The same way, the Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat and the Shuban Khatme Nabuwwat of Sargodha have issued a hate leaflet and given business addresses of 41 businesses owned by Ahmadi. The leaflet calls Ahmadis *Zindique* for whom the mulla insists the penalty is death.

This pamphlet invited the ‘Muslims’ to attend a conference in Markazi Eid Gah, Sargodha on October 8, 2011. It mentions that Qadianis, Jews and Christians were jointly putting pressure on the government of Pakistan. It exhorts the readers to ‘act’, otherwise it will disconnect them from the Green Dome (a reference to the Holy Prophet).

Sargodha is an important district headquarters town. It is home to a number of extremist mullas. It has been in the news for their close links to terrorists. The police, by not taking due notice of their anti-Ahmadiyya activities, will only facilitate the mullas to interact with public through this route.

Harassment of an Ahmadi

Faisalabad; December 2011:

Mr. Muhammad Akbar resides in Green View Colony, Faisalabad. The mulla of Jamia Masjid Tayyaba addressed the worshipers after the evening prayers and told them to beware of Mr. Akbar as he was a Qadiani who preached his religion to children and the people of the area. “He provides them narcotics and distributes visas for Europe to derail them from the right path”, the mulla told them.

Later a few mullas called on the owner of a shop close to Mr. Akbar’s residence. In the evening his neighbours informed him that a bearded man came on a motorcycle and inquired about his house.

Mr. Akbar is greatly disturbed over all this.

Threats to an Ahmadi businessman

Sialkot; December 2011: Mr. Shaukat Mahmood Tahir the owner of a factory Bashir Jameel Surgical at Khadim Ali Road has been receiving threatening calls on his mobile phone from an unknown caller. Someone wrote the words, “Mirzai (Ahmadi) *Kafir* (infidel), Mirzai *Kafir*” on the front wall of his house. Mr. Tahir’s servant erased those words. Someone again wrote those words and added to them, “Friend of a Mirzai is a traitor to Islam”.

Mr. Tahir’s daughter had to resign from the Allama Iqbal Law College, where she was employed as a lecturer, because of threats to her life. His son Mr. Umer Shaukat faced severe hostility as a student at the state-run Allama Iqbal Medical college.

Mr. Tahir is a distributor of Philips electrical company. His business rivals have joined this hateful campaign and urge the people to boycott Mirzais and Jews. They have passed the word that the boycott of Philips company is an Islamic act as it is owned by Jews. They also displayed ‘Mirzai are infidels’ on their shops.

Defacement of Ahmadiyya mosques

Goleki, district Gujrat; December 3, 2011: The Ahmadiyya mosque in Goleki, district Gujrat was sealed by the authorities in 1997. Its case is under process in the court. Unknown persons did wall-chalking on this mosque during the night of December 3, 2011. They erased the words ‘Baitul Hamd Jamaat Ahmadiyya’ and wrote instead Jamia Masjid Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat. They also scribbled the following inscriptions on its walls:

- The only cure for Qadianis – Al-Jihad, Al-Jihad
- The deniers of the Khatme Nabuwwat are infidels.
- Farhan Qayyum Islamic Library, Jaishe Muhammad, Sipah Sahaba and Jamaat Altauhid Ahle Summat.
- Farhan Qayyum gate, Sarfraz Shaheed gate
- The Holy Prophet (pbuh) is the last prophet
- They also put X signs on the walls of the library and the missionary’s quarters.

After its sealing, the police are responsible for the mosque’s security and ensuring its sanctity.

Naseerabad, district Larkana, December 2011: Authorities sealed the local Ahmadiyya mosque on July 30, 1999 when mullas made plans to attack it and set it on fire. Instead of providing security to Ahmadis, authorities found it convenient to seal it.

This month Abdul Haq, one of the opponents of Ahmadiyya community, who resides in the house adjacent to this mosque demolished the internal common wall and took possession of the Ahmadiyya mosque.

A complaint has been registered in the police station.

Hostility in schools

Sukheki, district Hafizabad; December 2011: Mr. Qamar Ullah Shaheen is the president of local Ahmadiyya community. He has two daughters who study in the local Girls Higher Secondary School. Miss Naima Ambar is a student of the senior class. One day her teacher spoke against Ahmadis in the classroom. She urged the students to boycott Shezan products as Ahmadis are their owners and alleged that they used their income against Muslims. Mr. Shaheen’s younger daughter Miss Ramia Ambar also faces hostility at the school. Her fellow students harass her and use bad words against the founder of the Ahmadiyya community. One of them suggested her to recant and take an oath of allegiance on her hand.

An Ahmadi student denied admission

Gujranwala; December 2011: Mr. Shahzem Sohail Ahmad applied for admission in Punjab Medical colleges. He passed the entry test and qualified for admission from Gujranwala Medical College on merit on December 18, 2011. He received call from University of Health Sciences on December 25, 2011. He went there with educational certificates. The staff there declared the issued marks-sheet bogus, although it had been issued by them, and cancelled his admission. The university administration tampered grossly with his obtained marks and made them 635 instead of 935. The vice-chancellor and the controller of examination threatened Mr. Ahmad of grave consequences and told him to admit that his marks-sheet was fake and bogus. He refused to yield to their pressure. His admission was cancelled despite qualifying for it on merit.

Mr. Ahmad, in consultation with his father, has decided to approach the Lahore High Court to obtain justice.

Threat to an Ahmadiyya place of worship

Garden Town, Lahore; 9 and 10 December; 2011: Ahmadi assemble for daily prayers in 56, Tariq Block, Garden Town. The house belongs to an Ahmadi who was among those targeted last year in Model Town by the suicide bombers. Two unknown suspicious looking men came over to this location at about 11:30 p.m. on December 9, 2011. They had their faces covered. They surveyed the place of worship and attempted even an entry. Unable to succeed, they went back.

The next day at about the same time, two men came again. One of them stayed away at some distance from the prayer-centre, while the other, who carried a klashinkof rifle, came closer and attempted to jump over the wall to enter the building. He did not succeed, so he took a few photos on his mobile phone. He waved his hand for making some gesture to his colleague standing at a distance. Thereafter they left.

The police were informed of the two incidents. These are a cause for great concern to the Ahmadi.

Hostility at various places

Township, Lahore: Anti-Ahmadiyya activities are on the rise in Township, Lahore. Following incidents happened:

1. Unknown men undertook indiscriminate firing at the Ahmadiyya place of worship here.
2. A school boy went to take some food from a vendor in the recess time during school hours. The vendor refused to sell him eatables for his being a Mirzai (Ahmadi).
3. On December 7, 2011 an Ahmadi boy was playing cricket. A player of the other team started beating him during the match saying that he was a Mirzai. He was rescued by other players.

Defence Housing Society, Lahore: Anti-Ahmadi activists distributed another hateful, provocative pamphlet in this area. They also pasted it at several places.

Ravi park, district Lahore; December 10, 2011: Aalami Majlis Tahaffuze Khatme Nabuwwat held an anti-Ahmadiyya conference in Ravi Park, Lahore. It started at 7 p.m. and lasted till midnight. The attendance was approximately 300. Mulla Muhammad Ilyas Ghuman presided over the conference. The speakers used offensive language against the founder of the Ahmadiyya community and instigated the audience against the Ahmadiyya community. Hateful pamphlets were also distributed.

Bahawalpur; December 2011: Anti-Ahmadiyya provocative activities are on the rise in district Bahawalpur these days. They distributed and pasted anti-Ahmadiyya stickers in the

city markets, schools and on the doors of the houses in great numbers. It had the following inscription:

It hurts the heart of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) under the green dome when you meet a Qadiani.

Aalami Majlis Tahaffuz Khatme Nabuwwat's (AMTKN) mask

Khushab: AMTKN poses as a non-political organization and thereby avails many privileges from the state and a permissive handling by authorities. This allows it to indulge in highly objectionable sectarian and extremist activities. In fact, AMTKN is closely linked to regional and international politics and its members use its stage, although many of them are leading members of national political parties.

Recently mullas in Khushab led by Qari Saeed Ahmad led an ugly campaign against a 16-years old Ahmadi student to have him booked and arrested under a fabricated charge of the blasphemy law. A press report is translated below to show how political the AMTKN actually is:

We are deeply concerned over Qadianis' activities

Aalami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat will never let a pro-Qadiani candidate win an Assembly seat in future

Khushab (Bureau report): The Aalami Majlis Khatme Nabuwwat district Khushab and Jamiatul Ulama Islam (F) announced a joint complete social boycott of Qadianis and stated that this drive will continue till the time the Qadianis accept their (non-Muslim) minority status. Qari Saeed Ahmad Asad, the Divisional Amir of JUI(F) was addressing a rally in Jame Masjid Bagar Wali, against Qadainis declaring themselves Muslim in schools. He expressed great concern over the increase in Qadianis' activities in the country and said that their demographic increase in Grote area should be brought under control.

The daily Al-Sharq International, Lahore; December 17, 2011

Qari Saeed Ahmad of JUI (F) mentioned in the above report is also the Amir of the AMTKN. He is the leader of the agitation over the false accusation of the blasphemy law against the Ahmadi teen-ager in Khushab.

The incident and the press report are indicative of the false non-political posture of the AMTKN and of its modus operandi in fanning the fire of sectarian strife. Such open and convenient connectivity between an extremist organization and a political party is wrong, very wrong.

Anti-Ahmadiyya hype through the vernacular press

Faisalabad: Urdu press has often been accused by the Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan of serious and continuous violation of journalistic norms and ethics in the context of Ahmadiyya issue. Not that supporting evidence has not been provided by the community in the past, it will be appropriate to reproduce here some extracts of a recent op-ed from an Urdu daily to show the extent and style of the anti-Ahmadiyya propaganda that goes on despite the daunting political, social and security problems faced by the country.

The daily Aman, published from the major industrial city of Faisalabad, carried an op-ed titled "A Qadiani family" on December 15, 2011. Extracts:

A Qadiani family

(Writer: M. Nadeem Khokhar)

... Despite all this Qadianis do not appear to have relented. The evidence is all over the country, every day. They continue to blaspheme the religion of Islam by assuming Islamic names, praying like Muslims and keeping the Quran in their homes. It is essential to punish them with sentences provided in the law. Every Qadiani should be made to feel the heat of the

law. Qadianis do not suffer the well-deserved impact of the law on account of shortage of police staff and the support of the so-called defenders of human rights. Cases come to the notice of the Ulama, and the Mujahideen of Khatme Nabuwwat warn the police that if effective action is not taken, the latter will be responsible for the breakdown in law and order. In such cases, the police makes the required effort to not only arrest the implicated Qadianis but also ensures that the courts award them appropriate punishments. A number of Qadiani families are always busy proselytizing, but avoid falling foul with the police and ulama....

One such family is that of a businessman in Faisalabad. The entire family has been Qadiani activists. Two years ago when the Ulama tightened the noose around them, the elder son fled from Pakistan along with his wife and children. The younger son lived in Lahore. When the ulama took notice of the head of the family, he also migrated to Lahore. This family continued with their activities in Lahore. In the face of heightened opposition, he also fled from Pakistan along with his wife and children. His son, however, continues with his community proselytization in Lahore. He had to shift his residence three times in Lahore, but he does not desist from his activities. Not only both the father and son continue to proselytize, his two sons living abroad maintain their contacts with simple-minded Muslims and preach Qadianiat to them. Their present address in Lahore is not known to us, but they remain in preaching contact with some Muslims. His three sons-in-law support him in the same manner as his sons. His elder son-in-law ought to be mentioned in particular; we think he is now residing in Lahore after his flight from Faisalabad. He is in contact with his childhood friend and class-fellow who lives in Madina Town Faisalabad and supports him to the hilt. If these people do not desist from their activities, peace will be disturbed. In such a situation, an ardent activist of Khatme Nabuwwat could forcibly quieten him or decide to impose the Sharia penalty of apostasy (death) on him; the ulama should not be blamed thereafter. This Qadiani has learnt no lesson from his children who had to flee abroad. They preferred to flee rather than renounce their disbelief (kufr). All the Muslims should beware of these people. They are sure to end up in disgrace sooner or later, and we ought have no social interaction with them whatsoever. Through this article, we request our readers to let us know if they come across these Qadianis or come to know of their address, so that we may take action against them under the anti-Qadiani law, through the police.”

Mr. Khokhar, the writer is not content with the fact that some members of his targeted family had to flee from the country, he is chasing those who had to shift to other locations in Pakistan. He has openly suggested to some ‘ardent’ fellow-Muslims to impose the Sharia penalty (of death) on his targeted family, or at least let him know the address so that he can do the needful. The daily Aman has happily provided ample space to this preacher of hate and violence.

Ahmadis behind bars

1. Mr. Nusrat Ahmad of Goleki, district Gujrat has been arrested in a fabricated murder charge. He was not even named in the FIR. His arrest is an afterthought of the interested mullas. The complainant family reportedly said, “We know that he is innocent, but he is a Mirzai (Ahmadi); if he recants we’ll ask the police to set him free.”
2. Rana Sajeel Ahmad a teenager and his father were falsely implicated under PPC 295-C and PPC 298-C respectively in Khushab. They went into hiding due to fear of being killed by extremists. The police arrested Ahmad’s brother, Asfandyar under 16 MPO, in order to coerce the family to produce Rana Sajeel Ahmad and his father.
3. Mr. Basharat Ahmad, a headmaster was arrested in Kunjah district Gujrat on December 17, 2011 under PPC 295-B on false allegation of desecration of Quranic verses.

From the media

Blasphemy charges: Out of fear, Ahmadi family on the run

Teenager accused of making derogatory remarks against Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.)

The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; December 5, 2011

For minorities in Pakistan, persecution never ends

Over two dozen graves in an Ahmadi graveyard desecrated in South Punjab

The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; December 5, 2011

Case under PPC 295-C (The blasphemy clause) registered against Suhail Ahmad of class X in a private school for preaching Qadianiat

The daily Al-Sharaq, Lahore; December 17, 2011

Qadianis should be removed from important posts. Zahid Qasim (of International Khatme Nabuwwat Movement)

The daily Waqt, Lahore; December 12, 2011

Mirzai mafia has attacked national solidarity through the Memo scandal. Raja Riaz (of PPP)

The daily Nawa-i-Waqt, Lahore; December 24, 2011

Jewish, Christian and Qadiani forces have lined up against Pakistan – Ghulam Nabi Massomi (of JUI)

The daily Ausaf, Lahore; December 13, 2011

Memo scandal will surely have its consequences.

Mansoor Ijaz, a committed Qadiani, must be exposed. Abdul Latif Khalid Cheema (of Ahrar)

The daily Din, Lahore; December 21, 2011

‘Defenders’ vow jihad against West, India

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 19, 2011

(Jihadists’) Rally in Lahore sends alarm bells ringing

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 21, 2011

Bannu: Suicide attack on Tochi Scouts Lines. 9 FC troops martyred; 17 injured. School destroyed in Landi Kotal. Taliban accept responsibility.

The daily Mashriq, Lahore; December 25, 2011

Two schools blown up in Kohat, Tank

The daily The Nation, Lahore; December 14, 2011

At least 15 injured in sectarian clashes

Blasphemy cases registered against Shias in Khangarh and Jhang

The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; December 8, 2011

Muharram: 200 Ulama and Zakirs forbidden to enter 36 districts

Those who distribute hateful literature and do wall-chalking will be arrested. Decision in meeting (at Islamabad)

The daily Express, Faisalabad; December 3, 2011

Quetta blast toll rises to 16

The daily Dawn, Lahore; January 1, 2012

(Rehman) Malik blames SSP for (federal minister) Bhatti’s assassination

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 28, 2011

ISO, IJT hold demos a day after clash (in PU Lahore)

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 24, 2011

Acquittal: Maulana Abdul Aziz (of Red Mosque) in five, his wife and daughter in two criminal cases

The daily Aman, Faisalabad; December 21, 2011

SC true custodian of people's rights, says chief justice

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 10, 2011

All individuals and institutions have to play their active role to ensure the protection and promotion of Human Right in Pakistan. Mustafa N. Khokhar

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 10, 2011

We'll have judiciary that will not discriminate against anyone

We'll destroy tyranny in the land

I'll do all that the Quid-i-Azam would have done. Imran Khan

The daily Mashriq and Awaz, Lahore; December 26, 2011

I do not favour negotiations. So long as the Muhammadi Sharia is not imposed in Pakistan, there shall be no talks, no ceasefire. (Taliban) Commander Dadallah

The daily Mashriq, Lahore; December 12, 2011

Ulema urged to abstain from dubbing others non-believers – (ulama in) Jang Forum

The daily The News, Lahore; December 3, 2011

Muslim League (N) is an ideological party. Nawaz Sharif

Minorities are the most well treated groups as compared to anywhere in the world.

Gilani (the PM)

The daily Mashriq, Lahore; December 25, 2011

The roots of all problems lie in the army and ISI - Sardar Ataullah Mengal

The daily Mashriq, Lahore; December 25, 2011

Christmas attacks in Nigeria by (Islamist) sect kill 39

The Google News; December 26, 2011

Govt failing to protect human rights defenders. I A Rahman (of HRCP)

The daily Express Tribune, Lahore; December 9, 2011

Al-Qaeda, not Taliban, is the enemy: Washington

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 21, 2011

Balochistan at point of no return, Mengal tells Nawaz

The daily Din, Lahore; December 4, 2011

There was some rigging in all the past elections. Next election will also have its rigging. They are all thieves; they will even sell the country. Air Marshal ® Asghar Khan

The daily Mashriq, Lahore; December 13, 2011

UK body stresses end to political meddling in Sindh police

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 4, 2011

Second major achievement by Rabwah girl

Sitara Baroj an 11 years old girl of Chenab Nagar town is the youngest Pakistani student to pass the IELTS.

This is her second achievement in less than a year. Earlier, she set a world record of completing O level at the age of 11 some 9 months ago....

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 12, 2011

Haidar Farooq Maudoodi goes to court to obtain his share of heritage.

My brothers Muhammad Farooq and Ahmad Farooq usurped my share.

The daily Pakistan, Lahore; December 21, 2011

Pakistani Hindus visiting India on tourist visa seek asylum

The daily Mashriq, Lahore; December 18, 2011

HRCP slams 'gagging non-Muslims'

The daily Dawn, Lahore; January 1, 2012

Karo-kari claims 43 lives in last three weeks (in Sindh)

The daily Dawn, Lahore; December 20, 2011

**Abuse ‘widespread’ in Dutch Catholic church
(Belfast Telegraph – 27 minutes ago)**

By Tony Patterson. The Catholic church in Netherlands was blamed yesterday on the systematic and widespread abuse of up to 20,000 children and adolescents in its homes and institutions in a damning independent report which castigated the clergy...

In Depth: The Catholic priest with nine children (The Gurdian)

Google News on December 17, 2011 at 08:25

Op-ed: A consensus against democracy

Pakistan is united against the United States, the international community, and against the elected government in Islamabad. ...

It would be a first in the history of democracy if treason is presented as a crime aimed against the Army.

Khaled Ahmad in The Friday Times of December 16, 2011

Oped: Fall of the Muslim state

The Muslim state survives a little bit better if it becomes a market state, as in the Gulf states. Within the nation state paradigm it starts killing itself gradually through a love of heroic isolation, which is today the ideal of all Muslims, which makes Iran the most envied state. Pakistani generals are following this model and will have to carry the stigma of having killed Pakistan after being pushed by APCs and parliamentary joint declarations into placing Pakistan in the crosshairs of isolationism even as clergy and lawyers bay for the innocent blood of non-Muslim blasphemers; and non-state actors kill Shias to claim place in a Sunni paradise after death. The Muslim genius flourishes when ruled over by a colonial master. His intellect dries up under the merciless oppression of a pre-modern vision that the Muslims simply cannot review and modify.

Khaled Ahmad in The Friday Times of October 28, 2011

Oped: News Analysis: Rally in Lahore sends alarm bells ringing

It was an extraordinary spectacle in Minto park at the foot of the Minar-e-Pakistan on Sunday. Jihadists, sectarian warriors, orthodox mullahs, Islamic revivalists, all banding together under the banner of Difa-i-Pakistan Council (Pakistan Defence Council) and vowing to ‘defend’ Pakistan against external aggression.

Cyril Almeida in the Dawn of December 21, 2011