



INCIDENT REPORT

VIOLENT ASSAULT ON AHMADI MOSQUE IS LATEST SIGN IF INTENSIFYING RELIGIOUS TERROR IN KARACHI, PAKISTAN

A new wave of terror and violence against the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Pakistan has reached Karachi. On Wednesday, 28th Feb 2024, at around 5pm in the evening, 15 to 20 extremists arrived at Al Nusrat Mosque in Dastagir Society Karachi, of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and took two armed policemen on duty hostage and forcibly entered the Mosque.

They had their faces covered and they were having hammers with them. They had a ladder with them. Some of them were seen carrying the Palestinian flags. Around 3-4 persons climbed up the roof and started damaging the Minarets of the Ahmadiyya Mosque. Minarets were covered with the iron sheets. Similarly, some of them started damaging the outer wall of the Ahmadiyya Mosque by using the hammers. During all this time according to the Police fires were also shot, along with firecrackers were also thrown. Among the persons who climbed up the ladder harassed the family of the Caretaker of the Worship Place. The sad event spread quickly on social media through the [video](#)¹ and this [video](#)².



Pictures: On 28th Feb 2024, at around 5pm in the evening, 15 to 20 extremists arrived at Al Nusrat Mosque in Dastagir Society Karachi, of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and took two armed policemen on duty hostage and forcibly entered the Mosque.

In 2023, several places of worship of the Ahmadiyya Community were targeted in Karachi. Cases were also registered in some of these incidents, but no responsible could be punished, due to which the morale of the extremists is at an all-time high. Extremism is appearing in different forms in Pakistan. There is a need for the state institutions and civil society to stand strong against this extremism because the extremist elements are determined to destroy the peace and order of the country.

¹ Link to a copy of video on social media: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1763045127918928196>

² Link to a copy of video on social media: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1763045136072606043>

The hatred against the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Pakistan is an all-time high with persecution reaching every sphere of society. A country which was founded on principles of freedom of religion and belief for everyone is now demonstrating itself on a world stage of being a beacon of intolerance and religious extremism against minorities.

Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan continue to struggle to enjoy their most basic and fundamental human rights in relation to Freedom of Religion and Belief. The Government of Pakistan must look into this blatant violation of judgment of the Lahore High Court and must hold the culprits accountable. Moreover, it is mandatory that security be provided to all Ahmadiyya Muslim Community places of worship to ensure violence and hate-incidents such as this do not escalate any further.

The Supreme Court of Pakistan's judgement (PLD 2014 SC 699), authored by the then Chief Justice of Pakistan, Justice Tassaduq Hussain Jilani, guarantees the protection of all places of worship and instructs the police to protect places of worship. Destroying minarets is also a violation of Article 20 and the same Supreme Court verdict of 2014 (PLD 2014 SC 699).

The same Supreme Court judgement of 2014 (PLD 2014 SC 699) had asked the Government of Pakistan to form a special task force for the protection of worship places of minorities. On the contrary, an extremist agenda sponsored by the state is being pursued against the Ahmadiyya community with authorities encouraging this type of violent behaviour which defies this Supreme Court judgement of 2014 (PLD 2014 SC 699) and all norms of religious sanctimony.

Human rights groups have repeatedly 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.

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 once again urge the international community to pressure the Government of Pakistan to honor its responsibility to provide protection to all its citizens, ensure freedom of religious practice to Ahmadis, and bring perpetrators of such vicious attacks to justice. The Government of Pakistan must also bring its laws and practices in conformity with international standards as ordained by Article 2, 18 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Article 25, 26.

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