

INCIDENT REPORT

KILLING OF AN AHMADI MAN IN RAWALPINDI

Date: 05 Dec 2024

Location: Dhamial Camp, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Summary of Incident:

An Ahmadi man, Tayyab Ahmad, was murdered in a religiously motivated attack in Rawalpindi. The assailant, armed with an axe, approached the victim and his brother, Tahir Ahmad Qamar, at their shop. The attacker invoked prior warnings for “Qadianis” leave the area before launching the assault. Tayyab succumbed to his injuries on the spot.

Tayyab Ahmad, had recently travelled from Rajanpur to visit Tahir, who had been managing the shop despite enduring death threats and hostility. Days before the attack, a nearby religious gathering incited participants to pelt stones at the shop, escalating the tensions.

The perpetrator, believed to be in his early 30s, fled the scene while continuing to threaten the Ahmadi community.



The murder, the fifth religiously motivated killing of an Ahmadi this year, highlights the severe risk faced by Pakistan’s Ahmadiyya Muslim Community due to rampant intolerance, hate speech, and inadequate government response to extremist violence.

Community Response:

Amir Mehmood, a spokesperson for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, expressed grief and outrage at the incident, linking the murder to unchecked hate speech and state inaction. Mehmood criticised the government for failing to hold individuals accountable for inciting hatred and violence, stating, *“The identities of those promoting extremism are no secret. Legal action against them is essential to prevent further bloodshed.”*

Recommendations and Demands:

- 1. Immediate Investigation:** Arrest and prosecution of the assailant under relevant criminal and anti-terrorism laws.
- 2. Accountability for Incitement:** Legal proceedings against individuals and organisations that promote religious hatred against the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.
- 3. Community Protections:** Proactive measures to ensure safety for vulnerable populations, particularly Ahmadis, in high-risk areas.
- 4. Monitoring of Hate Speech:** Enforcement of Pakistan's laws to curb hate speech and extremist gatherings that foster violence.

Conclusion:

This horrific killing exemplifies the ongoing systemic persecution faced by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan and underscores the urgent need for comprehensive legal and policy measures to prevent further violence, prosecute instigators of hate, and uphold the safety and dignity of all citizens, irrespective of their faith. Immediate and decisive government action is critical to addressing this escalating crisis.
