



## PRESS RELEASE

# Pakistan's New Minority Rights Commission Entrenches Persecution of Ahmadis: A Law For "Protection" That Protects No One

Pakistan's Parliament has passed legislation establishing a *National Commission for Minority Rights* — but rather than safeguarding vulnerable communities, the new law cements the exclusion of Ahmadi Muslims from even the most basic protections.

This is not reform. It is a formal reinforcement of state-backed discrimination that has defined Ahmadi life in Pakistan for decades.

### A Commission Built on Exclusion

During the Joint Session of Parliament, senior lawmakers and the Law Minister openly declared that Ahmadis would **not** be permitted to benefit from the Commission unless they *denounced their faith and denied the truth of their own beliefs as Muslims*. Link to video on social media: [https://x.com/faith\\_defence/status/1997216272220848521?s=46&t=qJrK62IRsj8eXEilMTXPBA](https://x.com/faith_defence/status/1997216272220848521?s=46&t=qJrK62IRsj8eXEilMTXPBA)

This is not a misunderstanding.

It is an explicit position endorsed on the floor of Parliament by all its members.

By conditioning rights on religious renunciation, Pakistan has abandoned the universal principles that underpin equal citizenship rights, justice, equality, and human dignity.



## **Citizenship Erased in Plain Sight**

For Ahmadis in Pakistan, this legislation confirms a devastating reality:

- They are denied minority rights.
- They are denied equal citizenship rights.
- They are denied recognition unless they abandon their faith and belief.
- They are left entirely exposed to violence, hate speech, targeted killings, social boycott and persecution in all forms.

Rather than shielding a persecuted group, the new law **locks in their vulnerability**.

As IHRC states:

**“This legislation is a hypocritical sham. It ensures that Ahmadi Muslims — citizens of Pakistan — will remain targets of killings, mob attacks, discrimination, and social exclusion in the very country they helped establish.”**

## **A Black Mark on Pakistan’s Human Rights Commitments**

The exclusion of Ahmadis, openly justified by lawmakers, reveals a system that no longer even attempts to conceal its bias.

**“Parliament and senior ministers have effectively announced that there is nothing left for Ahmadis in Pakistan — no rights, no protections, and no place in the legal order unless they renounce their faith and belief,”** IHRC added.

This is state-sanctioned coercion, incompatible with Pakistan’s obligations under international human-rights conventions and its commitments under the EU’s GSP+ framework.

## **Urgent Actions Demanded**

### **To the Government of Pakistan:**

- Amend the legislation to include Ahmadis without conditions.
- End the coercive requirement to deny one’s beliefs for legal recognition.
- Guarantee equal citizenship rights for all faith communities.

### **To the International Community (EU, UK, US, UN):**

- Condemn the exclusionary provisions in the strongest terms.
- Press Pakistan to align its minority-rights policies with international law.
- Monitor and investigate the escalating persecution of Ahmadis nationwide.

### **Silence Is Endorsement**

Ahmadis in Pakistan are peaceful, law-abiding citizens, asking only for the rights guaranteed to every human being. The world cannot remain silent as a state writes discrimination into law and justifies it on the floor of their parliament. A simple dream of having a safe and peaceful life is completely non-existent for Ahmadis, living under these conditions in Pakistan. This is not minority protection. This is the codification of religious apartheid.

**END**