

Incident Update

Killing of Ahmadi Community Member, Advocate Malik SaleemLatif

March 30, 2017

Factual Updates

On 30 March, 2017, Advocate Malik Saleem Latif, a cousin of noble laureate Dr Abdus Salam has been killed. The incident took place at Nankana Sahib, near Beri Wala Chowk. He belonged to Ahmadi Community and was the head of Nankana City Jamaat-e-Ahmadiyya (Tanver, 2017). He was on the way on a motor-bike along with his son, advocate Farhan, when unidentified attackers opened fire at him due to which he was killed on the spot while his son survived the attack. According to his son the attacker wore a white prayer cap and black uniform, usually worn by security guards, chased us and opened fire at my father. A banned militant group, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, has claimed the responsibility (Gabol, 2017).

Situational Background

Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, a banned militant group, is a Sunni militant group involved in sectarian attacks from the very beginning. This group considered Shia and Ahmmadi as infidel due to which members from this community always came under their attack. They killed the members of the Ahmadi community since the government legislated the sect as non-Muslim in 1974.

Analysis

The Ahmadi Community came under the attack of religious extremists inside Pakistan due to its particular religious belief. The recent attack on Advocate Malik Saleem Latif, have happened the day when Pakistan's foreign ministry said to a US State Department advisor on religious affairs that his country had "rejected the politics of hate and divisiveness. The latest killing of the prominent member of the Ahamdi Community demonstrated the fact that that Operation Zarb-e-Azab and operation Radd-ul-Fasad has failed to achieve the desired aims and objectives. It means that militants are still able to catty out attacks wherever and whenever they wanted to do so. The dual policy towards militants still hunted us in one way or the other.

Although various militant groups including Lashkar-e-Jhangvihave been banned in Pakistan but they renamed themselves and re-emerged again with the same objectives to kill the members of otherminority group inside Pakistan. Our security agencies hesitated to put an iron hand on them because they serve their foreign policies objectives inside Afghanistan and Kashmir. Under the umbrella of our security agencies they enjoy safe havens inside the main cities of Pakistan from

where they carried out attack on members of the minority communities particularly Shia and Armadas.

Implications

The attack on Advocate Malik Saleem Latif who belonged to Ahmadi community will give further boost to sectarianism and religious extremism which is already at the highest level inside Pakistan. The image of Pakistan will be further deteriorated in international community because it failed to give religious freedom and security to communities belonging to different sects. Feelings of insecurity among the members of other minority groups will be increased. Culture of violence and intolerance towards the members of other sects will further reached to its highest level.

References:

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Gabol, I. (March 30, 2017). Cousin of Nobel laureate Abdus Salam gunned down in Nankana Sahib. *Dawn*. Retrieved from <https://www.dawn.com/news/1323766/ahmadi-cousin-of-nobel-laureate-abdus-salam-gunned-down-in-nankana-sahib>.

Location Map



Photo Gallery

