

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA condemns terrorist attack on children in Pakistan

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA | Posted: Monday, July 28, 2014 7:29 pm

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA condemns in the strongest terms the July 27, 2014 terrorist attack on Ahmadi Muslims in Gujranwala, which is in Pakistan's Punjab province. The targeted attack resulted in the deaths of Bashiran Bibi (55), and her granddaughters Hira (7) and Kainat (8 months). A pregnant Ahmadi Muslim was injured and later miscarried her unborn child.

In this targeted attack extremists set approximately 10 homes ablaze. Local police were present but did not act to stop the act of terrorism, nor did they clear a path for the fire department to put out the blaze. The victims died of smoke inhalation and suffocation. This unprovoked attack is yet another example of how the authorities in Pakistan are aiding the persecution of Ahmadi Muslims, permitting extremists to continue attacks with impunity.

“Since Pakistan declared Ahmadis to be ‘non-Muslim’ by constitutional amendment in 1974, extremists have murdered nearly 300 Ahmadi Muslims only for their faith,” said Wasim Malik, national vice president of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, “and not a single perpetrator has ever been convicted of a crime. We call upon the government of Pakistan to stop this injustice and to uphold the rule of law for all its citizens.”

In an international press release issued earlier today, the global leader of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, His Holiness the Khalifa of Islam, Mirza Masroor Ahmad, condemned the targeted attack:

“This attack was an act of the most extreme cruelty and brutality, whereby innocent people who were sitting peacefully in their own homes were attacked and left for dead. Let it be clear that we Ahmadi Muslims will never undertake any worldly protest and nor will we ever take to the streets. Our response to all of the sustained persecution that we face is, and will always remain, to bow down before Allah the Almighty and to seek His Help and Mercy. This barbaric attack was conducted in the name of Islam, whilst the truth is that such violence has nothing to do with Islam or its teachings. Such merciless attacks can only be deemed as inhumane in the extreme. These types of vicious assaults are nothing but a stain on the pure and peaceful teachings of Islam.”

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA prays for the departed and urges the U.S. State Department to continue pressuring Pakistan to protect religious freedom for all its citizens.