

The Rt. Hon. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq  
Federal Minister of Law and Justice  
Ministry of Law and Justice  
Location Blocks S & R Pakistan Secretariat  
Islamabad  
Pakistan



November 23, 2022

Dear Mr. Sadiq,

I renew my appeal to your predecessor, Mr. Tarar, dated July 4, 2022, for blasphemy charges to be dropped against Sunny Waqas and Noman Masih. In doing so, I urge you to do likewise on behalf of eight other Pakistani citizens who have been charged with the same capital offence under Section 295 A-C of Pakistan's Penal Code.

The names of the eight additional Muslim and Christian victims of unjust blasphemy charges are: Salamat Mansha Masih, Sarfraz Ahmad, Stephen Masih, Tayyab, Haider Ali, Dr. Muhammad Shahid, Shagufta Kiran, and Raja Aziz Waris Masih. The charges against them are marred by lack of credible evidence and other irregularities.


The abuse of Section 295 C of the Penal Code has become known throughout the world. Charges of blasphemy are habitually leveled in Pakistan by police officers and other complainants against innocent people for the purposes of revenge or other forms of unworthy personal satisfaction. They are also used to fan the flames of violent religious extremism within society.

The UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Mr. Ahmed Shaheed, has called for the repeal of such laws, noting that they often serve as platforms for enabling religious intolerance against vulnerable persons, particularly belonging to religious minority groups.

It is not only through Pakistan's legal system that dubious allegations of blasphemy blight the lives of innocent Muslims and non-Muslims. Lives are also threatened and taken extra-judicially. Murderers feel justified and endowed with impunity because of the federal blasphemy law.

I am enclosing the case details of the ten victimized Muslims and Christians. Charges against them should be dropped forthwith for want of credible evidence and other irregularities. CSI trusts that you will use your authority as Minister of Law and Justice to guarantee their freedom and security.

Most respectfully,

  
Dr. John Eibner

**Cc:** H.E. Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan.

November 23, 2022

## **Blasphemy Cases**

The State vs. Salamat Mansha Masih etc, FIR NO.61/2001, Offence U/S 295-B, 295-C 34 PPC, Police Station Model Town Lahore. Criminal Petition No.883-L/2022. Bail allowed of Supreme Court of Pakistan dated 23.08.2022. Trial is pending in the court of Mr. Khalid Wazir ASJ Lahore.

The State vs. Sarfraz Ahmad etc, FIR No.783/2021, Dated: 27.09.2021, Police Station: Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Area Lahore, Offence U/S: 295-A PPC. Criminal Misc No.10889/B/2022 in the Lahore High Court. Trial is pending in the court of Mr. Khalid Wazir ASJ Lahore.

The State vs. Stephen Masih etc, FIR No.68/2019, Offence U/S:295-C PPC, Police Station: Badiana Pasrur Sialkot, CrI. Revision No.18108/2022. Bail allowed in the Lahore High Court dated 31.05.2022. Trial is pending in the court of ASJ Sialkot Pasrur.

The State vs. Tayyab etc, FIR No.C-104/2022, Dated: 24.05.2022, 11 of PECA 2016 R/W 295-A, 295-C, 120-B, 348, 109 of PPC, Police Station Cyber Crime Reporting Center Lahore. Trial in the court of Mr. Ghulam Rasool Sb ASJ Lahore.

The State vs. Haider Ali etc, FIR No.669/2020, Offence U/S 295-B, PS Gawalmandi Lahore. Trial is pending in court of ASJ Lahore.

The State vs. Dr. Muhammad Shahid etc, FIR No.1997/2020, Offence U/S 295-C, 295-A PPC, Dated: 29.09.2020, Police Station Shahdara Town, Lahore. Trial is pending in the court of Hafiz Hussain Azhar Shah ASJ Lahore.

The State vs. Shagufta Kiran etc, FIR No.51/2021, Offence U/S 11 of PECA-2016 R/W FIA CCRC 295-C, 298-A & 109 PPC. Trial is pending in the court of Mr. Raja Khalid Special Judge Central Islamabad.

The State vs. Raja Aziz Waris Masih etc, FIR No.116/2021, Dated: 14.01.2021, Offence U/S 298 PPC & 295-A PPC, Police Station Factory Area Lahore. Bail allowed in the Sessions Court Lahore. Trial is pending.

The State vs. Sunny Waqas etc, FIR No: 353/19, Dated: 29.06.2019, Offence U/S 295 C PPC, Police Station: Faqeerwali, Tehsil Haroonabad, district Bahawalnager. Trial is in the court.

The State vs. Noman Masih etc, FIR No: 366/19. Dated: 07.01.2019, Offence U/S 295 C PPC, Police Station Baghdad Al Jadeed Bahawalpur. Trial is in the court.