



No. Sp/Proc/1/2025

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations based in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to refer to communication JAL PAK 4/2025 dated 26 March 2025.

The Permanent Mission has the further honour to attach the response of the Government of Pakistan to the communication under reference.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations based in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Geneva, 19 January 2026

The Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human  
Rights (OHCHR)  
Geneva



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN  
Geneva

**Government response to JAL PAK 4/2025 dated 26 March 2025**

The Government of Pakistan categorically condemns all acts of violence and killings, including those allegedly involving Mr. Ameer Hassan, Mr. Tayab Ahmed, and the attack in Kurram on 21 November 2024. Such incidents are treated as serious criminal offences under Pakistani law, and investigations are conducted in accordance with the Constitution and legal framework.

All relevant law enforcement agencies had been directed to conduct thorough, impartial, and independent investigations regarding the death of Mr. Hassan and Mr. Ahmed, in compliance with national and international obligations. The Government has emphasized the importance of investigating any motive based on religious discrimination, and authorities have been instructed to ensure accountability and provide remedies to victims' families. There is no impunity for any such offense.

In cases of sectarian attacks, including the subject incident, the Government has deployed security forces, restored access to essential services, and intensified counter-terrorism operations in the affected regions. Prosecution of perpetrators proceeds in accordance with the law and the cases are *sub judice*.

The Government reiterates that the legal provisions, as codified in sections 295, 295-A, 295-B, and 298-C of the Pakistan Penal Code, are applicable to all citizens equally, and any criminal proceedings are subject to judicial scrutiny. All persons accused of such offences, including Mrs. Bushra Abid and other individuals mentioned in the communication, are entitled to fair trial guarantees, including legal representation, access to medical care, and protection from harm, in line with domestic legislation and international obligations under ICCPR Articles 9, 14, and 18.

In response to the concerns regarding women prisoners, the Government ensures that conditions of detention are compatible with its international obligations regarding the treatment of women prisoners and non-custodial measures. Special attention is given to vulnerable groups, including minors, women, and persons with disabilities, to protect their human rights, especially to safeguard their dignity, health, and access to justice.

The Government of Pakistan affirms its commitment to safeguarding the rights of all religious communities to practice their faith freely. Security and law enforcement authorities are mandated to prevent attacks on places of worship, cemeteries, and religious properties. Incidents of vandalism, including the reported destruction of Ahmadiyya places of worship and tombstones, are subject to police investigation, and perpetrators are being prosecuted in accordance with domestic law.

The Government has ensured strict non-interference in religious practices by any individual or group. At the same time, authorities remain vigilant to ensure public order and to act against unlawful activities, incitement to violence, or obstruction of legal processes.

Pakistan is firmly committed to preventing and penalizing advocacy of hatred constituting incitement to discrimination or violence against any religious or belief group, in line with Article 20 of ICCPR. Measures have been taken to regulate public gatherings, prevent incitement through media or online platforms, and promote interfaith harmony through awareness and education programs. The Government continues to collaborate with the civil society and religious leaders to counter any incidents that involve negative stereotyping or religious intolerance.

All aspects of legislative amendments and judicial safeguards to enhance the protection of religious minorities continue to be discussed at various national forums to ensure compliance with the constitutional guarantees, ICCPR, and other human rights instruments ratified by Pakistan. Importantly, judicial review and institutional redressal mechanisms continue to provide a protective framework against any misuse.

In accordance with CEDAW Articles 2 and 5, the Government actively works to eliminate any reported discriminatory practices affecting women from all minority communities. Policies and mechanisms to address alleged cases of forced conversions, abductions, or gender-based discrimination are in place, and women's rights pertaining to detention and legal proceedings are respected, in accordance with international norms.

The Government of Pakistan hopes that the foregoing is sufficient to clarify allegations raised in the communication under reference.

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