

## Pakistan's Blasphemy Law: Churches & Homes Vandalized

August 17, 2023

August 16-17, 2023: Town: Jaranwala, District: Faisalabad, **Pakistan: Accusing a Christian citizen of Pakistan of Blasphemy:** Announcements, through loudspeakers in the mosques in Jaranwala, called on the faithful (i.e. Muslims) to come out and save Islam. The Announcement said that two Christian brothers had insulted their Prophet by tearing some pages from the Quran. The announcer claimed that these torn pages from the Quran had been found from near the house of the two Christian brothers.



Five churches were vandalized and homes in a Christian colony were put to torch. The mob then proceeded to attack the office of a Christian Police Officer, **Shaukat Masih**, the Assistant Commissioner of Police of the town. To pacify the large mob of Muslims, the Government of the province of Punjab in Pakistan, **punished Shaukat Masih** by removing him from his duties in the city and transferring him as an Officer on Special Duties at Lahore, the capital of the province.

August 17, 2023: On the next day, the mob desecrated another 16 churches. The

POLICE ACTION: The Local Police in Pakistan has launched a blasphemy case against the two Christian suspects, near whose home, a few torn pages of Quran were found.

It may be noted that the Police has not registered even a complaint against the violent Muslims, who ransacked churches and attacked the houses of the Christian community.

[www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com) calls on the intellectuals of Pakistan to abrogate or to modify the Law of Blasphemy, due to which the minorities in Pakistan have to suffer, at some place or the other in Pakistan, **with a sickening regularity**. In Pakistan, the population of non-Muslims has been reduced from about 20% on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1947<sup>1</sup> to about 1.5% (largely Christians, with only a smattering number of Hindus and Sikhs) today due to continuing atrocities.

It seems the radicalized and intolerant society or the Government of Pakistan are not able to permit this small number of Christians, Sikhs and Hindus to live in peace. [www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com) calls on the UNSC to arrange to take out of Pakistan the remaining 1.5% of non-Muslim systematically and to settle them in Christian countries.

<sup>1</sup>On 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1947, the Muslim country of Pakistan was created by UK by taking out (or partitioning out) the areas with a Muslim majority out of India. Mr. **Muhammad Ali Jinnah**, the then Pakistan's leader had assured non-Muslims, living in the areas which were included in Pakistan, that they would be treated on par with the Muslims. But even as Mr. Jinnah was giving that speech of assurance to non-Muslims, the riots had started for pushing out non-Muslims from Pakistan.