

## **An increasing the migration of minorities in Pakistan**

**Avinash Advani**

Independent Researcher, Pakistan

---

### **Abstract**

This Study intends to focus on the social issue which is highlighted in Pakistan whereas minorities are being targeted but it's not contemporary issue. Minorities are discriminated on the basis of religious not only this, but also they are facing challenges during the hiring on the employment, Loan, Housing and other sources where they are being discriminated. The church, Temple and other worship places has been burned and demolished/attacked by fanatic people due to intolerance. The main objective of this study is to know the status of minorities in Pakistan, to know the impact of migration of minorities from Pakistan. This study will be helpful to understand the current situation; this study will be supportive to lawmakers, Politician, Social Workers. This is a descriptive study followed by the qualitative paper and its case study which is based on facts along-with primary data used. There are laws available which are highly resourceful; to guard the minorities that had become a tool for promoting the intolerance and developing the country's rank in the world. There should be judicial inquiry and Special Forces that ensures the protection of Minorities in Pakistan. It is prerequisite to provide the equal employment opportunity.

**Keywords:** Minorities, Migration, Religious, Discrimination, Social Development, prevent Intolerance, Pakistan.

---

### **Introduction**

The population of Pakistan is estimated around 170 Million. The flag has included Sikh, Christians, Hindus, Parisi Buddhists, Ahmadis and other minority group as indicates on the left side of Pakistani flag. The population of minorities has 4%. Over the past sixty years, the minorities are being neglected and issues of minorities have become a social vulnerability. According to resolution of 1949, it has evidently declared all the rights of minorities and this state is based on equality with no discrimination, but this discrimination has negative effects on social development. Religious minorities have a tendency to sprint in equivalent according to national and international protections. Migration hits the highest point on the basis of religious and dissimilar of culture and ethnic group hence, it has developed the concept of minority rights in Pakistan. For instance, The Ahmadi's frequently are not considered in a minority group although due to extremism against them, they feel insecure because it has shove them in the status of minority group. The rights of minority already mentioned in the constitution of Pakistan along-with, it is lack of classification that minority stands for what? According to UN Special Report eventually, that made the clear statement that the rights of individuals are belonging to National, cultural and religious minorities and state must provide the identification and protection according to United Nations Declaration.

### **Background of the study**

The causes of migration defined can be defined by many words such as ethnic group, gender, religion, race and culture. When migration is involuntarily- frequently it's called forced. This research study highlighted the migration of non-Muslims which is appeared since many years and it has effects on the progressive Pakistan. Migration might be domestic or international but it depends upon human. The word migration

is basically movement of human to other region. Infact this migration is based on violation against minorities and intimidating them. This researcher shows the facts and some incidents which was highlighted during the past years.

Pakistan is independent since 1947, but minorities still couldn't get their destination as our founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam declared that every citizen of Pakistan is free to go their temple, church and other worship places.

The freedom of religion has been inextricable. Keeping this fact that there isn't any record available that comprehend the exact results and figures of minorities who has been migrated from Pakistan. Since many years non-Muslims are leaving the Pakistan and some of them want to leave the Pakistan but rest of Non-Muslims they can't move due to some financial issues particularly its impact on the overall development of Pakistan. Minorities are feeling insecure – Abduction, Forced Conversation, Killing and life threats are common for their routine life and there isn't protection for them. While the population of minorities becoming less due to intolerance by extremism. The Zia regime has started the Islamisation during the military rule in 1977 – it is basically promoting and helping Afghan Mujahedeen's, whereas discrimination taken place. Furthermore, there were different amendments results such as The Penal Code and Blasphemy Law. Since (1988), the intolerance and extremism become awful act. There are many National and International Human Rights groups who declared that Pakistan is failure state for minorities and large scale of violation against Ahmadi, Hindus and Christians has been increasing.

### **Problem Statement**

Pakistan is region where different ethnic groups and religious minorities exists Including Hindus, Christians and Ahmadis, considering the recent study conducted by Western religious freedom and human rights minority groups they declared that

minorities within Pakistan are discriminated. Due to law and order situation minorities are isolated whereas forcefully conversation, attacking on the Church & Temple and burning the religious books it's frequent in the routine life. According to constitution of Pakistan, it provides the fundamental right to provide the protection of minorities in Pakistan whereas it has already mentioned in "Article 2-A of the Constitution and Minorities Rights". The migration ratio is increasing day by day- our state is freedom since 1947 afterwards there was implementation in articles by state governs. Recently article has been published in Tribune which is identified that some extremist groups are forcing and threatening to non-Muslims for migration the reason behind it might be plans to take hold of non-Muslims property. Undoubtedly, minorities have been single-minded to misery – though it is indeed to pursue the law which is already exists and it is primary responsibility of law enforcement that they must abide and impose the actions against the culprits. During the 2010 to 2015 there are many cases raised against the violation of minorities even though Shia (Hazara to Gilgit and Gilgit to Karachi) they have been attacked- it is horrified accidents in Pakistan.

### **Literature Review**

The Economist reported that the ratios of Christians and Ahmadi increasing in Sri Lanka and they are migrating from Pakistan around 1,489 has already migrated along with they are also migrated to Thailand 1,000 in 2014 according to Express News. Keeping this fact every years 5000 Hindus and 128 Sikh Families are migrated in India subsequently Indian Government has made the task force for allow them to live. Eventually Sri Lanka has made the Visa policy for Pakistani's immigrants.

Due to discrimination raised and violation against non-Muslims, it is horrifying moments and it's against the betterment & Development of Pakistan. There are different types of discrimination occurs in their routine life such as there are quota system for minorities in Pakistan and non-Muslim can be rejected during the job anytime without any notice period. While within the Christen and Hindus, they have been forcefully converted according to one survey report they highlighted this issue and broadcasted in all over the world that Every year christen and Hindu girls are forcefully converted furthermore the magistrate of that state deny to proceed the case of abdication and forcefully conversation of girls once a girl declared that she agreed with her own will there is no further investigation, due to this issue, forced conversation has appeared as a disturbing trend. According to dawn news in every year 5000 Hindus are migrating to different regions. Minorities are moving towards another country due to intolerance, threatening, diminishing the worship places of minorities. According to Saroop Chand Malhi who is resident of UmarKot Sindh Region, stated that women is being abducted and then raped violation against us increasing day by day because we are counted as a minority group furthermore temples are being damaged even we won't be able to be permanent on employment, it creates the fear and harassment against us. We can't run our businesses properly and we've to pay some percentage of income to powerful person.

It is prerequisite that world must address this critical issue and ending this discrimination on the urgent basis along-with support the minority group in Pakistan because they quite

helpless and misery. The empowerment of extremism is taking places. Ultimately, throughout the world it will create the intricacy and impact on the overall South and Asian Region. The large proportion of migration started during the 1947 partition and many Hindus from Punjab migrated to India, It was inflexible time for both countries and most of Hindus are highly educated and they migrated by reason of some sickened circumstances. Furthermore Sindh had the largest proportion of Hindus but that time, they also migrated. According to survey 94% of Hindus were lived in Sindh Province whereas Hindus from Tharparkar, Sukkur and Jacobabad highly effected and they migrated consequently there were many caste included within the Hindus such as: Buraman, Bheel and Oad. The population of Hindus was more than 65% before 1971, later on Indian army were captured half of the proportion. Yet, many Hindus are lives in these areas but at the same time their conditions are very awful especially, in Tharparkar. People of Tharparkar don't have the proper system of water, food and medicines and many people are dying. Caste and religious discrimination is hit the highest point and 80% Hindus are victims in Pakistan according to Banhn Beli NGO worker, he exists in Tharparkar. They are landless and deprived, they work on daily wages and can't afford for shelter, they presents from poorer castes for instance: Kohli, Meghwars and bheel. They don't have proper education system, if it exist then they can't afford for fees even for books. There is inequality among them and state is failed to provide the basic needs which is highly required in Tharparkar, this area represents the real Sindh and it is evident of ancient but due to improper system, the people of Sindh dishearten by considering them lower caste. According to case study 22 Years old boy Roop chand has been burnt by some extremism, he was labourer and belonged from Lower caste "Bheel" but, no one has raise voice against religious extremist, his family was lodged the case but couldn't get the justice. There is no supports from government and they never rebuild the demolished temples which burnt by fanatic extremist. It is obvious that the status and protection of Hindus in Pakistan is prejudiced on a certain stage through what occurs crossways boundary in India. Different Interviews has collected and disclose that they dealt with the consequences of the devastation of the Babri Masjid across the border in India in 1992.

### **The Role of Minorities in Pakistan**

The role of Minorities in Pakistan is recognizable whereas Pakistan has top reputed personalities included: Jogindranath Mandal he was first Hindu Law minister of Pakistan. Rana chander Singh he was federal minister of Pakistan, Sobho Gianchandani, (Pakistani social scientist) He was the member of communist party and always believed in the humanity and fought for rights in Pakistan. Rana Baghwan Das he was notable and sincere chief justice of Pakistan and there are many non-Muslims who contributed the efforts for the sake of Pakistan.

Minorities are generating the revenue in Sindh whereas most of the Hindus are businessmen, Doctors, Engineers and land lord but due to intolerance by fanatic it is highly impact on the Minority group. They feel unsafe in this country, this is the only reason that minorities from Interior Sindh (Jacobabad, Thul and Sukkur) they mostly migrated to other regions and Indian Government has clearly declared that most of people

are belong from Sindh and Balochistan Province. It is violence against minorities in Pakistan which is carrying out till now and people are kidnapping just for ransom amount. Forcefully conversion has started since many years but it is making news icon with the help of media.

**Methodology**

This study attempts to focus on Increasing the Migration of Minorities in Pakistan. This study significantly collected the data by interviewing the migrated families and researcher is deeply concerned with this social issue. Primary and Secondary data (I.e. Newspapers, Case studies, Videos, Presentations, Magazines and other reliable approach) has been collected for this research. It is comprised with multiples sources of evidences by facts and figures of previous years. The data has been collected by Phone Interviews & observations and contained with case study protocol. Several incidents have been highlighted to prove the reliability of case study along-with references has been used. The data might not be accurate because, it has collected by phone interviews and throughout the social network and some of them aren't able to give the interviews. The purpose of this study to diminish the fear of threats among minorities and Conclusion and recommendation has made on the basis of several case studies.

**Migration**

District	Ahmadi	Hindu	Sikh	Christian
Lahore	1	0	1	2
Faisalabad	1	0	0	1
Jacobabad	0	2	0	0
Mirpur Mathelo	0	2	0	0
Peshawar	0	0	0	0
Thul	0	1	0	0
Balochistan	0	1	0	0
Nankana Sahib	0	0	2	0
Total	2	6	3	3

This table shows the total migration of minorities from different region and fourteen families has been migrated – though most of the Hindus and Christians have migrated from different regions of Sindh and Punjab.

The questions have been asked from four different families in Pakistan and mostly they answered that we left Pakistan for several reasons and we weren't secure in Pakistan. Throughout the overall Interviews and conversation they disclosed that we couldn't go to temple freely and girls weren't allowing to study in Pakistan. The most important thing – our lives are insecure and forcefully conversation is common in Pakistan. Therefore our family has decided to migrate. We've emotional attachment with Pakistan but due to extremism, this incident has happened but we are under protection now (Migrated family from Pakistan now lives in Ahmedabad, India)

**Conclusion**

This case study highlighted the major issue throughout the overall study, this is not only responsibility of Government but also Civil Society must take efforts to stop this issue and it is extremist hatred for the minorities in Pakistan whereas they feel unsafe instead of this, by birth they lives in Pakistan but due to intolerance migration has taken the place but this isn't only solution. Migration is impact on the country's economy policy and also the development because there many investors

in Pakistan who is belong from Minority group, if they aren't secure then why will they invest in Pakistan? Few cases are very highlighted in the International Media which is horrified included Rinkle Kumari & Lata Kumari Case afterwards the migration ratios is increasing such as Many families are migrating from Sindh region while that time, interior minister attempted to stop them and doesn't want to give them permission in Islamabad, Pakistan later on they got permission and they never come back during the 2011-12. Most significantly the Pakistani Parliament should make amendments and impose the article 36 'Protection of Minorities' a part of Fundamental Rights thereby bringing it under the operational part of the constitution

**Recommendations**

- Minorities should practice freely and go to church and temple without any discrimination.
- Amendment on the Pakistan Penal Code
- There should be judicial enquiry commission and they must ensure the protection of minorities in Pakistan follow the law 36 Protection of Minorities
- There should be Equal Employment Opportunity for everyone
- Regular meetings and maximum budget are necessary within the National & Standing Commission on Minorities which must be legally accessible for every minority member.
- Women and Minorities must be under protection by selection of Special Ombudsman
- It is important to fixed or increased seats in Assemblies for the minorities groups.
- Make sure that the all students who belonging from minority group must be unbiased at the time of admission in Private School, Government College or Higher Education, there shouldn't be discriminate.
- Public seminars and awareness program against discrimination and intolerance must be introduced to encourage the minorities.
- Marriage Certification Bill was postponed several times in the National Assembly of Pakistan therefore Minorities Marriages Registration is very essential because this bill allow them to migrate or visit to other countries.
- It is need to develop the approachable proper system for minority groups whereas Police Officer must follow the Human Rights Structure, in some cases Police Officer is not able to register the FIR against culprits, therefore it is require to build approachable system for minorities groups in Pakistan
- Political Parties must declare their manifesto and ensure the implementation of policy

**References**

1. Ali CM. The Emergence of Pakistan (University of the Punjab, 1967)
2. Ali Tariq. Military Rule or People's Power? (Jonathan Cape, 1970)
3. Anon. Summary of the Cases Instituted against Ahmadis in Pakistan (from April 1981 to July 23, 2001), mimeo, n.d.
4. Akhtar S. Tehreek-I-Pakistan Kay Gumnan Kirdaar, Rawalpindi, Christian Study Centre, 1997.

5. Centre for Legal Aid Assistance and Settlement (CLAAS), Progress Report for the Year 2000, Lahore, CLAAS, 2000.
6. CLAAS, Cases against Minorities 2000, Lahore, CLAAS, 2001.
7. French P. Liberty or Death?, London, Flamingo, 1998.
8. Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), State of Human Rights in Pakistan, 2000, Lahore, HRCP, 2001.
9. HRCP, State of Human Rights in Pakistan, 1997-2007
10. Jalal A. The Sole Spokesman: Jinnah, the Muslim League and the Demand for Pakistan, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1985.
11. Kenoyer M. Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization, Karachi, Oxford University Press, 1998.
12. Mahbub ul-Haq. Human Development Centre, Human Development in South Asia, 2001, Karachi, Oxford University Press, 2000-2003.
13. Malai NA. Asalathul Zakarin, Turbat, 1994.
14. Malik IH. Islam Nationalism and the West: Issues of Identity in Pakistan, Oxford, St Antony's-Macmillan, 1999.
15. Malik IH. State and Civil Society in Pakistan: Politics of Authority Ideology and Ethnicity, Oxford, St Antony's-Macmillan, 1997.
16. Malik IH. U.S.-South Asia Relations, 1784-1940: A Historical Perspective, Islamabad, Area Study Centre, 1988.
17. Barth F. Pathan Identity and Its Maintenance in Ethnic Groups and Identities: The Social Organisation of Culture and Difference (Waveland Press Inc 1998), 117-134.
18. Bhasin K. In the Making: Identity Formation in South Asia (Three Essays Collective, India, 2007)
19. Burke SM. (Intro) Jinnah Speeches and Statements 1947-48 (Oxford University Press 2000)
20. Donnely J. Universal Human Rights: In theory and Practice (2nd Edition Cornell University, 2003)
21. Ferrie J. Pakistan: Minorities at Risk in the North-West. Minority Rights Group International Briefing (Minority Rights Group International, 2009)
22. Malik J. Religious Minorities in Pakistan (Minority Rights Group International, 2002)
23. Hasan, A. The Constitution of Pakistan: Defiled-Defaced (Asia Law House, 1995)
24. Safiya Aftab, Arif Taj. Migration of Minorities in Pakistan" A case study published by AAWAZ Program Islamabad. [www.aawaz.org.pk](http://www.aawaz.org.pk).
25. Khan H, 'Constitutional and Political History of Pakistan' Oxford University Press, 2009, 403.
26. Sardar Ali Rehman argue in their study 'minorities are mainly interpreted as religious minorities.' 2001 Ed. Shaheen Sardar Ali & Javaid Rehman 'Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities of Pakistan: Constitutional and Legal Perspectives' 21 JI interview with Kanji Rano Bheel 4 March, 2011
27. [http://www.youthparliament.pk/yp2014/downloads/CR/la\\_wjusticeandhumanrightsstandingcommitteereport.pdf](http://www.youthparliament.pk/yp2014/downloads/CR/la_wjusticeandhumanrightsstandingcommitteereport.pdf)
28. <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/29-Oct-2015/the-violence-against-minorities-in-pakistan>
29. <http://www.eopm.org/>
30. <http://www.dawn.com/news/1105830>
31. <http://tribune.com.pk/story/419691/persecution-forces-60-hindu-families-to-migrate-to-india/>
32. <http://tribune.com.pk/story/420263/hrcp-outraged-as-minorities-forced-to-migrate-from-pakistan/>
33. <http://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2014/04/08/national/1000-christian-hindu-girls-forced-to-convert-to-islam-report/>