



CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY, PLURALISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Weekly Human Rights Report

(24-06-2024 to 30-06-2024)

New Delhi. 30th June 2024. The violence in Pakistan against minorities and non-Sunni Muslims continued this week. In the previous week, Ahmadis were the main source of target due to Eid. This week a Shia man was killed by an underaged boy over a blasphemy allegation. Reports emerged of the extremist Muslims protesting against the new Gurudwara proposal in Faisalabad in Pakistan. Globally Human Rights situation continued to worsen in Iran as dissident political prisoners continued to be sentenced over dubious reasons. Sierra Leone finally banned the marriage of underage girls. While Mali's junta continued to put dissidents in prison. Finally, Afghan women were again abandoned as the UN summit on Afghanistan took place in Doha.

Pakistan

1. Shia Man Killed by a Minor Over Blasphemy Issue

In another incident of blasphemy-related killing in Pakistan, a 14-year-old minor boy, who was a seminary student, in Kunjah city murdered a 55-year-old Shia man. The incident occurred after the accused heard his father, a prayer leader in a mosque, and his uncle talking about the victim's criticism of one of the companions of Prophet Mohammad. In recent weeks Pakistan has seen several [open](#) threats by extremist organisations like TLP against what it deems as blasphemy. Such threats always go unpunished.

For more information:

<https://www.indiatvnews.com/news/world/pakistan-teenage-boy-kills-man-over-alleged-blasphemy-remarks-prophet-mohammad-mob-lynchings-violence-updates-2024-06-24-938566>

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/pakistani-teenage-boy-kills-man-over-alleged-blasphemy-101719231835643.html>

<https://www.ptinews.com/story/international/teenage-pakistani-boy-kills-man-over-alleged-blasphemy/1606540>

2. Extremists Protest Against a New Gurudwara in Faisalabad

News reports along with videos of protests emerged wherein a mob was seen opposing the proposal to open a new Gurudwara in Faisalabad. The Deputy Mayor of the city was leading these protestors.

For more information:

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/pakistani-man-issues-threats-to-prevent-gurdwara-from-reopening20240628140141/>

<https://www.financialexpress.com/world-news/pakistan-deputy-mayor-of-faisalabad-ameen-butt-apologises-for-opposing-gurdwara-reopening-in-the-city-watch-video/3538965/>

https://navbharattimes.indiatimes.com/world/pakistan/pakistan-faisalabad-muslim-open-threat-against-opening-gurudwara-after-76-years/articleshow/111343032.cms#google_vignette

Iran: Regime Court Gives Additional Sentencing Against Nobel Laureate Narges Mohammadi

This week reports emerged that an Iranian court sentenced Narges Mohammadi, Nobel Prize winner, to additional one year in prison on charges of “propaganda against the state”. She is already serving two years prison sentence.

For more information:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/irans-imprisoned-nobel-peace-prize-laureate-narges-mohammadi-sentenced-to-another-year-in-prison/article68307963.ece>

Mali: Junta Arrests Opposition Politicians

At least 11 members of the opposition were arrested by the junta in the country. This included a lawyer and a former minister M. A. Bathily. This week they were presented in a local court. Since the military coup, the country has seen a serious erosion of Human Rights in the country with arrests and detentions of civilian leaders a regular occurrence in the country.

For more information:

<https://www.africanews.com/2024/06/27/opposition-activists-arrested-in-a-crackdown-in-mali-were-moved-to-prisons/#:~:text=The%20eleven%20opposition%20politicians%20were,%E2%80%9Cviolations%20of%20private%20homes.%22>

<https://www.voanews.com/a/families-say-mali-opposition-activists-were-moved-to-prisons/7674840.html>

Sierra Leone: Child Marriage Banned in the Country

Sierra Leone approved the new Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill in the country which banned marriage below 18 years of age. In a country where 30 per cent of girls and 4 per cent of boys marry before turning 18, this law attempts to end that practice and criminalizes this practice. For girls between the age of 15-19, childbirth remains one of the major causes of death. The new law has the provision to punish the husband and the family in case of marriage to a minor.

For more information:

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/article/2024/jul/05/sierra-leone-has-banned-child-marriage-to-truly-set-women-free-it-must-end-fgm>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx02p44px1do>

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/sierra-leone-child-marriage-9432938/>

<https://globalnews.ca/news/10607142/sierra-leone-child-marriage-law/#:~:text=Sierra%20Leonean%20President%20Julius%20Maada,a%20fine%20of%20around%20%244%2C000.>

UN Doha 3 Meeting Excludes Afghan Women

This week reports emerged that the UN actively decided to exclude Afghan women activists and leaders from the crucial Doha 3 summit. They were removed from the guest list of the event as the UN desperately seeks to engage the Taliban regime at the diplomatic level.

For more information:

<https://www.civicus.org/index.php/media-resources/news/interviews/7139-afghanistan-the-doha-meeting-has-raised-concerns-the-un-is-indirectly-legitimising-the->

[taliban#:~:text=The%20third%20Doha%20meeting%20was,international%20community%20and%20the%20UN.](#)

<https://thediplomat.com/2024/07/the-doha-meeting-where-were-the-afghan-women/>

<https://www.voanews.com/a/taliban-appear-set-to-take-part-in-un-organized-doha-meeting-on-afghanistan-/7633713.html>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/7/1/what-to-expect-as-taliban-joins-third-un-held-talks-on-afghanistan-in-qatar>