



## Baltimore Prosecutors Drop Charges, Adnan Syed Is Free

By: Aysha Qamar

After 23-years of serving time for a crime he said he didn't commit, Adnan Syed, the man whose legal case made international headlines because of the hit podcast "Serial," is finally free. According to the Baltimore Sun, Baltimore prosecutors dropped Syed's criminal case in connection to the 1999 killing of Hae Min Lee on Tuesday after DNA test results did not match that of Syed.

While Syed's conviction was overturned last month, prosecutors had until Oct. 18 to decide whether or not to retry him for the murder, kidnapping, and robbery



charges against him or drop them. Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby's office noted

Tuesday that the decision to drop the charges against Syed was based on never-before-tested

DNA from Lee's shoes.

"Finally, Adnan Syed is able to live as a free

*Cont. on page 14*



## Pakistan's New Financial Troubles And A New Finance Minister

By Mahvish Akhtar

Pakistan has had to take some complex steps lately amid pressure from World Bank and other stakeholders since the country's inability to create consensus and instability in the narrowing political space past few months. Last week WB asked the government to make some goodwill and a positive narrative regarding where the over



\$1 billion budget support loans are being spent.

The new Finance Minister Ishaq Dar assured WB two days before his departure to Washington, where he participated in a high-profile conference on the sidelines of the WB and International

Monetary Fund (IMF) annual meetings.

The conference was co-chaired by the World Bank Group and a substantial 7- Group members. The UK aimed at getting the world's fi-

*Cont. on page 14*

## Chechen Muslim Fight In Ukraine For Both Sides

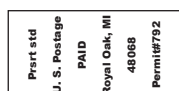



By Yousuf Ali

Since Russia escalated its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, there has been considerable international involvement with fighters around the world coming to fight on either

side of the conflict. One element of this to note is the presence of Chechen fighters on both sides of the conflict, Ukrainian and Russian. Immediate history would be that in the matter of the two

*Cont. on page 13*





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# Op Ed: Is Picking Out Muslim Americans At The Borders Constitutional?



by Dr. Aslam Abdullah

The First Amendment provides that Congress make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting its free exercise. It protects freedom of speech, the press, assembly, and the right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

How many of you heard the news that the U.S. Border officials stopped at the immigration check posts of American citizens of Jewish origin returning from a foreign country and questioned them about their activities abroad?

How often have immigration authorities stopped white supremacists from returning from Europe and Canada and asked them about their neo-Nazi views or organizational identity? Even when the Hindu militant leaders visit the U.S. to raise funds for their groups promoting hatred against Muslims or Christians, you do not hear authorities raise any objections.

However, when a young Muslim U.S. citizen returns home after his vacation or study visit from abroad, he experiences hostility at the border or entry points. He faces questioning that views them as a suspect. The officials go after them because of their name, ethnicity, and religion. It is a government policy to keep an eye on Muslims, especially those who appear to be from South Asia, South East Asia, the Middle East, or Central Asia. Even Muslims, born and brought up in the U.S., cannot escape the officials from scrutiny.

More than 20 years have passed since 9/11, yet the Muslim community has continued to be seen as suspects with tendencies to commit terrorism. Even though the data points fingers at white

supremacists as a significant threat to U.S. national security, the authorities still target Muslims and receive millions of tax dollars in grants to go after them.

Two recent incidents are enough to illustrate the point. First, a young couple recently visited Canada and, after a week-long vacation, got stopped at the border. The wife and infant waited while the officer took the husband inside the questioning chamber. For almost two hours, the young man faced questions about his faith, friends, family, and job. As a result, the family missed the flight and had to spend an extra night in the border town. The next day, they faced the same ordeal and barely reached the plane.

The second time the husband was asked to give the password to his cell phone, he refused. The Questions were of racist and religious natures. Here is a sample of ten questions young Americans face while returning to their country.

1. What sect of Islam do you belong to?
2. Which Imam do you follow on YouTube?
3. what do you want to teach at a secular educational institute?
4. How come you do not teach at a Madarsa?
5. Do you know anyone with terrorist tendencies?
6. Have you participated in any violent activities?
7. Who are your friends?
8. Why did you go abroad to study?
9. Do you subscribe to the Deobandi school of thought?
10. Can you give your views on the following verses of the

Quran?

Those asking questions are either white, Hispanic, or Hindu officers. White and Hindu officers are more aggressive in their style and tone. They lack proper protocol in asking questions or even pronouncing Muslim names correctly. The possibility of such officers serving the interests of white supremacist or Hindu nationalist groups does exist, as their style reeks of Islamophobia openly.

No matter what the U.S. administration says in public, its law enforcement and intelligence gathering agencies are not fair in their agents' behavior, reflecting their upbringing and organizational culture. Many of these agents are the product of a family, church, and community that negatively view Islam and Muslims. For example, among most Christians, Islam is an anti-Christ faith, and Hindu upper castes view Muslims as their number one enemy. It is a challenging task to believe that by taking an oath to protect the constitutional rights of every citizen, these agents might overcome their personal biases. Instead, their tones and styles of questioning reveal their preferences.

Muslims have to deal with this discrimination for a long time. One way to tackle this is to increase their presence in public offices. Muslims will always be disadvantaged without a significant Muslim presence in civil services and intelligence agencies. However, the community has ignored these two sectors in their employment. As a result, Muslim companies in the police, intelligence agencies, and civil services are negligible. Muslims have to deal it because no one will offer civil service jobs on a plate.

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# Did Hindutva Intelligence Agency Under The RSS Rule Frame The Muslim Group?

By: TMO Staff

India's Hindutva-led MHA and the National Investigation Agency (NIA), popularly known as the Hindutva Investigation Agency (HIA), banned the Popular Front of India (PFI) and all of its affiliated organizations for the next five years after arresting more than 270 of its leaders and workers from different parts of the country.

Within hours of being banned, the PFI state general secretary A Abdul Sattar dissolved the organization and explained:

"As law-abiding citizens of the country, we accept the decision of the Home Ministry." "The PFI has been working with a clear vision for the socio-economic and cultural empowerment of the underprivileged, oppressed, and marginalized sections of the society for the past three decades. But as law-abiding citizens of our great country, the organization accepts the decision of the Ministry of Home Affairs. It also informs all its former members and the general public that the Popular Front of India has been disbanded. All members of the Popular Front of India are requested to cease their activities since the publication of the notification,"

Nothing was shocking. The decision to ban the PFI was a foregone conclusion as the RSS-led government could not allow a cadre-based organized Muslim group to rival it.

The PFI had to surrender to protect over 400,00 of its members as it was helpless in defending itself and finding any support, even among Muslims. Officials at the MHA and Intelligence agencies met with some Muslim groups a few days before the ban to inform them of the impending decision.

The PFI leaders believe that the only way to challenge the MHA



decision was to wait for legal proceedings on the issue. Hence it decided to accept the decision and wait for the legal outcome of the ban.

The MHA and intelligence agencies described the PFI as a terrorist outfit aiming to turn India into an Islamic state. The MHA calls this goal against the constitution. But, ironically, if it is true, it is no different than the BJP, RSS, Bajrang Dal, and VHP demand to make India a Hindu Rashtra. So it is no surprise that several national and secular political parties have asked for a ban on the RSS, the militant Hindu organization.

The BJP and RSS have loyalists in all government branches, including law enforcement agencies. Through these officials, they can plant, concoct and manufacture information. During their rule in states and the country, they have used these tactics several times only to be proved wrong in courts that still maintain their independence. In some cases, the court freed the accused after 20 years. The purpose is to intimidate the accused and their communities. Religious minorities, especially Muslims, Dalits, Christians, and Sikhs, have been the main target of Hindutva nationalists

and intelligence agencies.

The modus operandi of intelligence and other law enforcement agencies is straightforward. First, the Hindutva nationalists' think tank looks at various challenges to its ideological and electoral interests and draws a strategy to counter them. Then, it alerts its IT cell, journalists, writers, and activists to implement the design in their work sphere. Simultaneously, it signals its supporters in various branches of the government to strengthen the party stand.

The RSS and BJP used these agencies to silence and harass their opponents. Sometimes, they used ED, or CBI, activated their media cells, and finally used their accomplices in intelligence agencies to concoct facts.

They played this game with Tablighi Jamatt in a professional manner. Their agents infiltrated the Tablighi Jamat in significant numbers, collected data about their supporters and sympathizers, and promoted anti-national ideas to frame members. They also recorded such statements and presented the conversation as evidence.=

The RSS and Hindu nationalists repeated the strategy with the PFI also. The organization was on their radar for a long. However, they developed the technique to counter PFI in 2010 when they aimed to capture the central government by 2014.

They recruited some members of the then-defunct Student Islamic Movement of India

(SIMI) as their moles in the PFI. They also infiltrated the organization and worked to project them as sincere and honest voices. Through these hired agents, they promoted ideas that appeared anti-national. They even circulated several position papers on how to weaken India. One such document was India 2047, and the other was Ghazwa e Hind. Unfortunately, an overwhelming majority of the PFI members know little about these documents.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the MHA are now using these documents as concrete evidence to prove that the banned organization was determined to break India.

Ghazwa e Hind is said

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# Dozens Of Soldiers Killed In Clash Between Turkmenistan And Kyrgyzstan In Border Dispute

By Yousuf Ali

On September 16, there were serious clashes between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on their disputed border. This was in the Batken region near the border of both countries. Both countries were formerly part of the Soviet Union and came into existence in the aftermath of the tumultuous fall of the USSR in 1991.

This led to several countries suddenly coming into existence and many trying to grab the territories of others leading to border disputes that last until this day. This includes issues between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. According to Al Jazeera, “Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have traded blame for fighting on their border that has killed at least 24 people, wounded dozens, and prompted a mass evacuation. Kyrgyzstan’s health ministry said early on Saturday that 24 bodies



had been delivered to hospitals in the Batken region that borders Tajikistan. An additional 87 people were wounded, the ministry said.

Clashes on the border that began earlier this week grew into large-scale fighting on Friday involving tanks, artillery, and rocket launchers.” Furthermore, the conflict has displaced

more than hundreds of thousands of people.

In the aftermath, both countries met in order to help bring about reconciliation and end the violence to no avail. This consisted of diplomats from both countries who wanted to prevent more bloodshed.

According to Al Jazeera, “An attempt to establish a ceasefire quickly failed

on Friday and artillery shelling resumed later in the day. Border guard chiefs of the two countries met at about midnight and agreed to create a joint monitoring group work to help end hostilities. It was not immediately clear whether the meeting had any effect on the fighting. In a statement on Friday, the Kyrgyz border service said its forces were

continuing to repel Tajik attacks.”

Additionally, the bordering villages do not have particular economic significance but have been under heavy politicized focus from the two countries. The presidents of both countries did meet in Uzbekistan while the conflict was underway.

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# Salam Al-Marayati Appointed By DHS Secretary Mayorkas To Prestigious Faith-Based Security Advisory Council

MPAC’s President, Salam Al-Marayati was appointed by Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas to the Faith-Based Security Advisory Council. Salam joins 24 other new members on the Council, an external advisory body providing advice to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Reflecting on his appointment, Salam Al-Marayati stated “I look forward to working with faith leaders of other communities to determine the best steps in protecting houses of worship and our communities against any form of violence. I also look forward to developing relations with these faith leaders to develop a united stand for a pluralistic democracy.”

The Council will provide organizationally independent, strategic, timely,



**MPAC President. Salam Al-Marayati Appointed by DHS Secretary Mayorkas to Prestigious Faith-Based Security Advisory Council**

specific, and actionable advice to the Secretary on diverse homeland security matters. Specifically, the Council’s contributions will enhance the Department’s work to protect houses of worship; improve coordination and information sharing of threat information with the faith community, and through the faith community, within the broader communities in which they

serve; increase access to DHS resources by building trust and addressing potential barriers; and prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of targeted violence, terrorism, and other threats.

Salam joins Imam Mohamed Hagmagid of the ADAMS Center in Northern Virginia, Imam Talib Shareef of the Nation’s Mosque, and Dearborn, Michigan Police Depart-

ment’s newly appointed Chief Issa Shahin as the four Muslims of the 24-member council.

For the full list of members, click here

The Council’s membership reflects President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas’ priorities on diversity, equity, and inclusion, and will ensure a wide range of diverse voices across various faith traditions.

The members announced to the Advisory Council represent various faith communities and a diversity of denominations, including from the Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, and Sikh communities, as well as law enforcement.

MPAC looks forward to participating in the Faith-based Security Advisory Council by sharing the American Muslim perspective and narrative with the Department of Homeland Security, and ensuring that the concern of American Muslim communities around the nation are taken into account as the Department creates policies that protect Americans.

To learn more about the Council, please visit: <https://www.dhs.gov/faith-based-security-advisory-council>.

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# Death Of Iranian Women In Custody Of Morality Police Triggers Anti-Hijab Protests Throughout The Country

By: TMO Staff

Last week, an Iranian woman of Kurdish descent Mahsa Amini died in the custody of Iranian Morality police after being picked up for not complying with the country's laws mandating hijab, the Islamic dress code requiring women to cover their body except their hands and faces. Since then there have been protests throughout the country against the government and its laws which featured many burning the hijab in an act of defiance. This has also led to increased international pressure with renewed sanctions.

According to Al Jazeera, The Biden administration has sanctioned Iran's so-called "morality police" for alleged abuses and violence against Iranian women and protesters, as Iranians have taken to the streets over the recent death of a 22-year-old woman after her detention by the police force.

On Thursday, the U.S. Department of the Treasury sanctioned the country's "morality police", as well as seven leaders of Iranian security organizations that it said "routinely employ violence to suppress peaceful protesters and members of Iranian civil society, political dissidents,"

In that sense, previous sanctions were specified to cover the institution which is responsible for enforcing Iran's laws regarding dress. Iranian police officials deny her death was due to mistreatment in their custody and say Amini was detained for wearing pants that were too tight. They further expressed condolences to Amini's family in the aftermath of the backlash.

The Iranian government though expressing regret for the death of Amini was firm against what it saw as the spread of false rumors and in defense of its own laws. According to Al Jazeera, "In a statement, the IRGC expressed sympathy for the family



and relatives of Amini. "We have requested the judiciary to identify those who spread false news and rumours on social media as well as on the street and who endanger the psychological safety of society and to deal with them decisively," the group said.

Amini's case has struck a chord with many across Iran, amid growing anger over civil liberties, as well as economic hardships linked to sanctions." In that sense, there is debate even amongst people who oppose Iran's regime and or policies on the

right ways to go about pursuing change in Iran. Furthermore, there are varying estimates about how many people have died with government estimates being lower and human rights organizations being higher.

While there is much to criticize about Iran and

its government, Muslims should be cautious about giving blanket support for the latest round of protests in the country. To begin, regardless of the context, burning the hijab in a derogatory way is unacceptable. It is at the very least encouraged in the Qur'an with pretty much all classical Islamic scholars saying that it is mandatory. That's a separate discussion from whether or not a ruler has the right to enforce this requirement, but by denigrating something which has become so important for the religiosity of hundreds of millions of Muslim women throughout the world, the protesters have not only set themselves against the Iranian government but against practicing Muslims everywhere.

If an oppressive Chris-

*Cont. on page 14*

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# Yusuf Al-Qaradawi: The Humblest Scholar Of Our Generation

*The author had the opportunity to spend two days with Dr. Yusuf al-Qaradawi when he visited in India in the 70s. The Jamat e Islami assigned the author to take him around. During the two days, we visited Delhi University and Jawahar Lal University. He did not mind riding the back seat of a Vespa scooter and eating lunch at the JNU street food store. He was straightforward and had a great sense of humor.*

**by Dr. Aslam Abdullah**

He was the last of the Muslim scholars who tried every theological avenue to blend tradition with modernity. He was one of those few who retracted his juristic position after realizing that he had made a mistake in his judgment. Yet, he never showed arrogance for his knowledge and scholarship. Even though he grew up in the culture of Ikhwan ul Muslimeen, he always rose above his organizational loyalties when serving the cause of humanity and Islam.

His critics called him names, and he never retaliated with anger. His enemies were after his life; he never sought intervention except from his Creator to seek protection, and his critics tried to accuse him, but he never hurt them back.

A man of extreme mild manner, a humble servant of God, returned to his final abode on September 26 after enlightening his world for almost 96 years.

He was the last of the Muslim scholars who tried every theological avenue to blend tradition with modernity. He was one of those few who retracted his juristic position after realizing that he had made a mistake in his judgment. Yet, he never showed arrogance for his knowledge and scholarship. Even though he grew up in the culture of Ikhwan ul Muslimeen, he always rose above his organizational loyalties when serving the cause of humanity and Islam.

Born on September 9, 1926, in a small village



Saft Turab rural in the Nile Delta, now in Gharbia Governorate, Egypt, Yusuf al-Qaradawi lost his father when he was under two. His uncle raised him. The world population was 1.86 billion at that time. When he left the world, a great majority of about two billion Muslims out of eight million people knew him through his works, particularly the Sharia and life and the Prohibited and the Permitted and Prohibited in Islam.

France and U.K. denied him entry into their countries, but they could not stop his writing from reaching millions.

After his initial studies in Tanta, he studied Islamic Theology at the Al-Azhar University in Cairo, from which he graduated in 1953. He earned a diploma in Arabic Language and Literature in 1958 at the Advanced Arabic Studies Institute. After that, he enrolled in the graduate program in the Department of Quran and Sunnah Sciences of the Faculty of Religion's Fundamentals (Usul al-Din) and graduated with a master's degree in Quranic Studies in 1960. In 1962, Al-Azhar University sent him to Qatar to head the Qatari Secondary Institute of Religious Studies. He completed his Ph.D. thesis titled Zakah and its effect on solving social problems in 1973 with First Merit and was awarded his Ph.D. from

Al-Azhar.

He was in prison under King Farouq in 1949, then three more times during the term of President Gamal Abdul Nasser. Finally, he left Egypt for Qatar in 1961 and did not return until the overthrow of the military regime by the 2011 Egyptian Revolution.

In 1977, he laid the foundation for the Faculty of Shari'ah and Islamic Studies at the University of Qatar, became the faculty's dean, and founded the Centre of Seerah and Sunna Research.

In 1997, Al-Qaradawi helped found the European Council for Fatwa and Research, a council of important and influential Muslim scholars dedicated to researching and writing fatwas in support of Western Muslim minority communities based in Ireland, and he served as its head. He also served as the International Union for Muslim Scholars (IUMS) chairman.

In the wake of the 2011 Revolution, he returned to Egypt for the first time since leaving in 1961.

He opposed religious extremism of all kinds. However, in his dissertation on Islamic awakening between Rejection and Extremism, he blames older Muslim generations for extremism among Muslims.

He advocated Sufism and practiced it also. He sought reconcilia-

tion between Shias and Sunnis and Muslims and non-Muslims.

Qaradawi wrote that Islam does not prohibit Muslims from being kind and generous to people of other religions. However, Islam looks upon the People of the Book, Jews, and Christians; he advised Muslims to avoid approaches that may arouse hostility towards others.

He opposed punishment for apostasy and asked Muslims to guard the values of their religion. He was an ardent supporter of democracy and advocated the establishment of city states with a religious background. He opposed theocracy.

He described Islam as the religion of tolerance that holds the human soul in high esteem and considers the attack on innocent human beings a grave sin. He opposed domestic violence, niqab, female genital mutilation, honor killing, and stoning by death.

Al-Qaradawi supported and advocated Mawlid and suggested that using the birth date of Muhammad in remembrance of his life story is not bid'ah. It is encouraged in Islam to do a good action by our good examples and that they may successively follow them till the End of Time.

Al-Qaradawi was born in Egypt but lived in Qatar. He had three sons and four daughters, three of whom hold doctorates

from British Universities. His daughter, Ilham Yusuf Al-Qaradawi, is an internationally recognized nuclear scientist. [His son, Abdulrahman Yusuf al-Qaradawi, is a poet and a political activist in Egypt.

Al-Qaradawi authored more than 120 books, and his academic style Some consider his book Fiqh al-Zakat as the most comprehensive work in the area of Zakat. Abul Ala Maududi commented on it as "the book of this century in Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh)."

His book Fiqh al-Jihad is the most popular one. The Guardian writes: Qaradawi encourages a "middle way" conception of jihad: "solidarity" with the Palestinians and others on the front line, rather than violence, is an obligatory form of jihad.

Yusuf al-Qaradawi wrote many books, some of which were in English:

Islam: Modern Fatwas on Issues of Women and the Family (Fatawa Mu'asira fi Shu'un al-Mar'a wa al-Ushrah) (Dar al-Shihab, Algeria, 1987)

Auspices of the Ultimate Victory of Islam, Doha (1996)

Towards a Sound Awakening

The lawful and the prohibited in Islam=al-Halal wal-haram fil Islam. Indianapolis, IN, USA:

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# Pakistan Sees Little To No Media Coverage As Floods Increase Water-Borne Diseases

by *Rehan Qamar*

Media attention toward the devastating impact climate change has had on Pakistan has become scarce. Because the issue doesn't impact Western countries or media right now, it is being given little to no importance.

But even though Pakistan is bearing the extremes of climate change, that doesn't mean North America and other nations of the Western world are immune. Already this hurricane season, Puerto Rico has seen devastating natural disasters, as has Florida.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has warned that climate change will not discriminate against other countries as it engulfs up to one-third of Pakistan underwater and puts millions at risk of water-borne diseases.

At a United Nations General Assembly last week, Sharif urged the international community to come together and "act now" before it's too late, CNN reported.

"One thing is very clear, what happened in Pakistan will not stay in Pakistan," Sharif told world leaders.

"For 40 days and 40 nights, a biblical flood poured down, smashing centuries of weather records, challenging everything we knew about disaster and how to manage it," he added.

Since the monsoon season began in mid-June, extreme rainfall has led to family homes, city infrastructure, and land being destroyed. Without the ability to reach those in need, thousands continue to suffer from a lack of food, and medicine, not to mention the spread of disease.

But that's not all: Glacier melt has triggered additional flooding, bringing the death toll up to more than 1,600 people, with thousands of others injured.

Of the 1,606 deaths recorded so far, 579 are children, the country's National Disaster Management Authority said.

According to CNN, Pakistan authorities have warned it could take up to six months for the flood waters to recede in the country's hardest-hit areas—which are also the poorest.

"The undeniable and inconvenient truth is that this calamity has not been triggered by anything we have done," he said.

Nearly 33 million people have been displaced by this climate crisis in the country, despite Pakistan only being responsible for less than 1% of the world's planet-warming gases, according to European Union data.

Even though Pakistan contributes little to nothing to the world's historic emissions responsible for climate change, it remains the eighth-most vulnerable nation to the climate crisis, according to the Global Climate Risk Index. At this time, about half a million survivors are still living in tents and makeshift shelters.

Children are the most impacted, with 3.4 million children in need of "immediate, lifesaving support." According to UNICEF, the massive flooding has left children vulnerable to contracting water-borne diseases, including diarrhea, dysentery, dengue fever, and malaria.

Doctors at the Mother and Child Healthcare Hospital in Sindh—the province most impacted by the floods—told CNN that more than 10 children die every day at the hospital alone, all from water-related ailments stemming from the floods.

With flooding damages, all pathways to transportation villagers in Sindh have been completely cut off from aid. Villagers who have lost their homes from the flooding are even more at risk of being stranded on the road without food or clean water to drink.

"Many children are not even reaching hospitals because the medical facilities they could access



are either underwater or just not accessible," said Aadarsh Leghari, UNICEF's Communications Officer in Pakistan.

According to The Washington Post, experts predict that the number of those who will die of disease and infection in the weeks ahead will extremely overtake the number of those killed by the floods.

"The children we are seeing now were already sick before they were displaced," said Faram Gohar Lashari, a pediatrician at Dadu central hospital. "Now, this suffering will only increase."

Lashari added: "Nearly all these children are malnourished, and that makes them more vulnerable to other illnesses."

The situation is beyond heartbreaking, with stories that are too difficult

to grasp or imagine.

"All this has happened because of the rains," said Mai Sabagi, the grandmother of a five-year-old girl who had just died from cholera, according to CNN. "We lost our clothes ... everything. Our house has been damaged. We have not been given any relief. Poor people cannot afford treatment."

Appeals are being made for Pakistan's debt to other countries to be forgiven. Officials are noting that the crisis has taken the country back years in development.

"The country is broken," Sherry Rehman, Pakistan's minister for climate change and a former ambassador to Washington, told Nikkei Asia in an interview.

"The widespread destruction of the country's road,

bridge, and rail networks has taken us back half a century, so access is by air or naval boats. The crisis is multidimensional and complex now. The health emergency caused by destroyed clinics, miles of swampy water, and water-borne diseases is potentially deadly."

She added: "The upcoming medium-term food crisis, the economic crunch, these will be the wages of the climate crisis."

The reality is communities that have already been struggling are the ones who are being most impacted by climate change and climate disasters. Pakistan is facing a global disaster, and countries, especially those that are wealthy like the U.S., need to step up.



# Impending Russian Annexations In Ukraine And Escalations Of Rhetoric Increase Fear Of Nuclear War

By: TMO Staff

On September 29th, 2022, Russia formally announced that it would hold referendums in 4 regions of Ukraine which it currently occupies. Many see this as a way of annexing these territories officially. This in conjunction with Russian willingness to use nuclear weapons on response to “its territory” have dramatically increased fears of nuclear escalation in the conflict between it and Ukraine. This is because if Russia claims Ukrainian territory as its own, it would be plausible that it would interpret Ukrainian attempts to take back that territory as a threat to its own and therefore worthy of a nuclear response. Additionally, the plans for annexation have been widely opposed by the interna-



tional community including the United Nations Secretary-General. According to The Hill, “United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on Monday called for the global elimination of nuclear weapons to prevent “humanitarian Armageddon” as international tensions heighten over Russia’s war in Ukraine.

“The Cold War brought humanity within minutes of annihilation. Now, decades after the fall of the Berlin Wall, we can hear once again the rattling of nuclear sabers,” Guterres said in remarks to the U.N. “Let me be clear. The era of nuclear blackmail must end. The idea that any country could fight and win a nuclear war is deranged. Any use of

a nuclear weapon would incite a humanitarian Armageddon. We need to step back.” This is remarkable as usually, the UN tries to avoid outright condemnation to maintain the appearance of neutrality. Additionally, even traditional Russian allies like Serbia are expressing hesitation about Ukrainian territo-

ries being incorporated into Russia. This has of course come in addition to condemnations from traditional opponents of Russia like the United States. According to Al Jazeera, “US Secretary of State Antony Blinken denounces Russian-backed referendums in Ukraine as an attempted land grab that is illegal under international law” there is further concern that such an annexation would constitute a prime threat toward peace with Ukraine feeling that Russia is seeking to permanently steal their land. This comes in addition to further turbulence with leaks from the international Nordstream pipeline adding further instability to Europe and the world in general.

Cont. from page 8.  
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He has also published some excerpts of his poetry in the book Nafahat was Lafahat. Al-Qaradawi has also been the subject of the book The Global Mufti: The Phenomenon of Yusuf al-Qaradawi, published by Columbia University Press.



Cont. from page 1.  
Chechen Muslim.

Chechen wars, the Russians installed a loyalist faction of the native Chechen population to reinforce Russian rule and stamp out resistance. Despite this, there remains a significant part of ethnic Chechens are deeply hostile to Russia, considering it to be a country that committed war crimes to suppress the authority of their people.

The pro-Russian government is led By Ramzan Kadyrov whose father

switched sides against the Russians during the second war. In the context of Ukraine, Kadyrov and his forces have been active in supporting Vladimir Putin’s invasion.

According to NPR , “In 2006, Moscow appointed pro-Russian leader Ramzan Kadyrov to rule Chechnya, and Kadyrov has pledged his support and loyalty to Putin and his invasion of Ukraine. Kadyrov has claimed that Chechen fighters loyal to Russia have been sent to Ukraine to fight for Putin, meaning it is

entirely possible Chechens are now fighting Chechens.” On the other hand, there are Chechen fighters who have joined with Ukrainian forces to repulse the Russian invaders.

Despite Russia maintaining control over Chechnya, many Chechens are opposed to Russian rule. Additionally, many Chechens fled the region to surrounding countries and have come to Ukraine from there. According to NPR, this is the story of one Chechen fighter on the Ukrainian side: “Today,

Mansur is the deputy commander of the Sheikh Mansur Battalion (no relation), one of at least two all-Chechen battalions fighting in Ukraine against Russia. These Chechens are among the 20,000 foreign fighters that the Ukrainian government estimated to have joined its forces as of early March, near the start of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. The Chechens say they are ready to fight Russian forces as well as against the other ethnic Chechen soldiers who have been sent to fight on behalf of

Russia.” These fighters see the conflict as an opportunity to inflict losses on those who they believed to have wronged them so much in the past. They report having witnessed the leveling of their towns and cities including buildings being burned with flamethrowers. Putin quashed the Chechen republic in 1999 when he was prime minister. Mansur concluded by saying that Chechans would be there to fight Russian focus wherever they may invade.

Cont. from page 4.  
Hindutva Intelligence

to be a fantasy of Jihad attributed to Prophet Muhammad foretelling battles in the Indian subcontinent between Muslims and non-Muslims, resulting in the victory of Muslims.

Some statements are in the book called Sunanan Nasai

“There are two groups of my Ummah whom Allah will free from the Fire: The group that invades India and the group that will be with Isa ibn Maryam.”

“The Messenger of Allah promised that we would invade India. If I live to see that, I will sacrifice myself and my wealth. If I die, I will be one of the best of the martyrs; if I come back, I will be Abu Hurairah Al-Muharrar (freed from the Fire).”

“In this Ummah, the troops would be headed towards Sindh and Hind.”

The following statements are in Kitab al Fitan:

“A group of you will conquer India, Allah will open for them (India) until they come with its kings chained – Allah would forgive those warriors – when they return (from India), they will find Isa ibn Maryam in Syria.”

“A king of Jerusalem (Baitul Maqdis) would make warriors move forward towards Hindustan. The warriors

would destroy the lands of Hind; would seize their treasures; the king would use those treasures for the decor of Jerusalem. That troops would bring the Indian kings in front of the king of Jerusalem. His warriors by king’s order would conquer all the areas between East and West: and would stay in Hindustan till the appearance of Dajjal.”

Muslim scholars have no consensus on the authenticity and accuracy of these statements.

Some attribute it to the writers during the reign of the second Umayyad Caliph, who tried to find a religious reason for marching Muslim armies to India. Others say that the conquest of India has yet to take place. Still, many believe that the statements attributed to the Prophet had a political motivation and had nothing to do with his mission as a mercy to humanity. They argue that Islam did not come to invade countries or impose its belief system. Instead, it was a call for an egalitarian and just society with freedom for people to choose their relationship with the Creator. They reject Ghazwa e Hindi-related narrations as concocted and suggest that they violated the fundamentals of the faith and the character of the Prophet.

References to Ghazwa e Hind are more common among Hindutva na-

tionalists than Muslims, especially the younger generation.

The so-called vision of 2047 appears fake, as even an illiterate person can refute its authenticity. According to NIA, the document states: “We dream 2047, where the political power has returned to the Muslim community from whom it was unjustly taken away by the British Raj. India is a secular democracy. Muslims make up only 14 percent of India’s population. Even in 2,000 years, if Hindus and Muslims maintain their current population growth, Muslims cannot form a majority.

The document is a fake one allegedly prepared at the instance of the RSS and the BJP to implicate Muslims in a conspiracy to dismember India against all logic. Let us not forget that the opponents of Jews attributed the Protocols of Zionist Elders to Jewish thinkers to implicate Jews in a conspiracy to control the world.

The NIA claims to be a counter-terrorist task force of India. Its purpose was to deal with terror-related crimes across states. It came into existence six years before the BJP came into power. However, many early recruits had loyalties to the RSS and the concept of Hindu Rashtra.

The Agency has its headquarters in New Delhi

with branches in Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Kolkata, Raipur, Jammu, Chandigarh, Ranchi, Chennai, and Imphal.

Over the years, the NIA hired staff reflecting the RSS and Hindu Rashtra ideology. As a result, an overwhelming majority comes from Hindu upper castes, and the so-called scheduled castes and tribes have representation only at lower levels. The loyalty test lies in an employee’s caste and allegiance to the RSS. Until a few years, not many of them had the national flag displayed on their desks of offices as the RSS had refused to acknowledge the legitimacy of India’s tri-color.

India has several intelligence agencies> Some of them are

National Technical Research Organization

Research and Analysis Wing

Aviation Research Center.

Radio Research Centre Electronics and Technical Services

Intelligence Bureau

Joint Cipher Bureau

All India Radio Monitoring Service

Narcotics Control Bureau

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs

Serious Fraud Investigation Office

Central Bureau of Investigation

Defence Intelligence Agency

Signals Intelligence Directorate

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

NIA (Amendment) Bill 2019

All these agencies have upper caste RSS sympathizers or supporters in their top decision-making echelons.

Law and order is a state subject under the Indian constitution. The NIA has usurped state rights under the guise of fighting terror. In 2020 Chhatishgarh state filed a case against the act in the supreme court.

The presence of RSS supporters in the NIA has made the situation confusing and complicated.

During the raids on PFI workers and offices, such confusion was evident. How India’s judiciary system will deal with the concocted evidence and view the alliance between a political ideology and the intelligence gathering apparatus is yet to be seen. However, what is clear is that the Hindutva nationalists want to use every instrument of power to promote their design to turn India into a Hindu Rashtra while marginalizing Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, and Buddhism.

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**Cont. from page 1.**  
**Adnan Syed is Free**

man,” Erica Suter, Syed’s attorney, said in a statement according to the Associated Press.

“Today’s the day that Adnan Syed and his loved ones have been waiting for 23 long years,” Suter added. “The results of the DNA testing excluded Adnan and confirm what Adnan and his supporters have always known: that Adnan Syed is innocent. The state of Maryland has dropped the charges. Adnan Syed is free.”

The DNA results come after a yearlong investigation in which, attorneys from the Innocence Project Clinic at the University of Baltimore School of Law and city prosecutors discovered two people they now consider alternative suspects in Lee’s death.

While both suspects were known to the authorities from the start, at least one was not disclosed to Syed’s defense.

“As the administrator

of the criminal justice system, it’s my duty to ensure that justice is not delayed, justice is never denied, but justice be done,” Mosby said when announcing prosecutors’ decision to drop the case. At this time the other two suspects have not been identified publicly. Outside of disclosing that homicide prosecutor Michael Dunty is assigned to the case, Mosby said she could not discuss any other details.

“We will continue to utilize every available resource to prosecute whoever is responsible for the death of Hae Min Lee,” Mosby said.

Last month when Mosby’s office urged to vacate Syed’s conviction, she said that her decision on whether or not to go ahead with charges was on pending DNA. Due to newly introduced evidence, the prosecutor said they lost faith in his guilty verdict. As a result Syed’s conviction was dismissed by Baltimore Circuit Judge Melissa Phinn and he went home

for the first time in 23 years on Sept. 19.

In addition to announcing the dropped charges, Mosby said she would be prepared to formally certify Syed’s innocence. According to the Baltimore Sun, this would make him eligible to apply for wrongful conviction compensation from the state— if the DNA testing came back inconclusive or found a different suspect.

Syed would also be entitled to financial benefits from the state for being wrongfully incarcerated for more than two decades. According to state law, in addition to financial benefits the state would also owe him five years of health care, housing and free tuition.

While the Lee family prepared to appeal the order that vacated Syed’s conviction, prosecutors took action to dismiss the case before the appeals court could have a chance.

“I’ve utilized my power and discretion to dismiss

the case. There’s no more appeal. It’s moot ... The case is over,” Mosby said Tuesday.

Despite DNA evidence supporting Mosby’s decision the Lee family attorney criticized Mosby for dismissing the case.

“The family received no notice and their attorney was offered no opportunity to be present at the proceeding,” attorney Steve Kelly told the Baltimore Sun. “By rushing to dismiss the criminal charges, the State’s Attorney’s Office sought to silence Hae Min Lee’s family and to prevent the family and the public from understanding why the State so abruptly changed its position of more than 20 years. All this family ever wanted was answers and a voice. Today’s actions robbed them of both.”

Now 41, Syed was found guilty in 2000, but he has always maintained his innocence.

Across the country, people are celebrating Syed’s win and acknowl-

edging the patience he had for justice during the two decades he spent in prison.

Syed’s long-time friend and author of “Adnan’s Story: The Search for Truth and Justice After Serial,” Rabia Chaudry took to Twitter to celebrate the decision.

“For decades now my prayer and the prayers of people who love Adnan have been not only that he is released from prison, but that he returns home with his dignity and reputation restored, his record cleared, and the killer of Hae Min Lee brought to justice. We prayed for all these things and God has granted nearly every prayer .... My final prayer is that the killer is soon arrested and I believe with my entire heart this will happen. Finally I want to say to Adnan that I love you little brother, and I can’t wait for the world to get to know you. You deserve everything good in this life and the next.”

**Cont. from page 1.**  
**Pakistan’s Finance**

nancial support for Pakistan’s flood-affected population.

The conference was arranged ahead of the international donors’ conference, which took place in Paris and was hosted by the French president to garner support for Pakistan in this current situation.

Pakistan’s new Finance Minister, Dar, met with Najy Benhassine, the country director of the WB, to discuss his scheduled meetings in Washington, which included one with the WB president.

The Pakistan finance minister briefed Benhassine about the economic challenges that the country is currently facing. He said that the present government is mindful of these issues and is

taking pragmatic steps to resolve blockages to growth.

“The present government is committed to setting the economy on a sustainable and inclusive growth path,” Dar told the World Bank official, according to a statement issued by Islamabad. To help Pakistan tackle the ongoing climate-induced catastrophe, the World Bank Saturday announced the allocation of \$2 billion in funds from existing projects for emergency operations in flood-affected areas.

Early last week, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced providing flood-relief support of \$2.3-2.5 billion to Pakistan. The announcement came during Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar’s meeting with a delegation of ADB, headed by

its country director Yong Ye.

PML-N senior leader Ishaq Dar was sworn in as a senator on Tuesday, October 4th, 2022, as the next finance minister of Pakistan. The decision to appoint Dar was made at meetings at a central London apartment owned by an Islamabad-based businessman. Dar will be replacing Miftah Ismail, who resigned as finance minister of Pakistan a week prior to Dar’s appointment.

The first meeting on Ismail’s removal occurred before Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif left London for New York. The meeting was held among PML-N patron and the elder brother of the now Premier of Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif. The meeting location between PM Shehbaz Sharif and Ishaq Dar’s was kept secret.

It was discovered later that the meeting was held at a Central London apartment of Jawad Sohrab Malik, a Pakistani billionaire from Islamabad. Malik is the nephew of Mohammad Mian Soomro, former caretaker of the prime minister of Pakistan, chairman of the Senate, and privatization minister during Nawaz Sharif’s government. The second meeting was held on Saturday, October 8th, 2022, among the Sharif brothers, Ishaq Dar, and a few others at the same apartment.

The final and third meeting took place on Sunday. That included Miftah Ismail, Marriyum Aurangzeb, and Malik Ahmed Khan. It’s this meeting where the decision was taken that Dar would accompany PM Shehbaz to Pakistan and take oath as finance

minister of Pakistan.

Ishaq Dar returned to the country after five years in self-imposed exile in the United Kingdom. He is a former Minister for Industries and Investment and Minister for Commerce during Nawaz Sharif’s presidency. He left the country when corruption charges were brought up on him. Now he has been brought back exonerated without any investigation by the PM himself with a new role in the government. Within hours of taking oath he told the media that he had his eyes set on putting the falling economy back on track.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has vowed he would rein in inflation and lower interest rates. This means the SBP does not need to be aggressive in the future.

**Cont. from page 7.**  
**Iranian Women**

tian government was forcing people to wear crosses, breaking crosses would be no less anti-Christian just because of that. Additionally, by setting themselves

against the hijab as opposed to just the government forcing them, they have fed into campaigns against Muslim dress in many parts of Europe and India which seek to ban the garments. Ironically, both Iran

and these oppressive non-Muslim governments are trying to dictate how people dress, one in the name of freedom, the other in the name of Islam. Though, the former is noticeably more inconsistent as they claim to

be defending freedom. Furthermore, sanctions generally hurt those who are the least responsible for the evils in a country, and more productive means of supporting those who wish to reform Iran should be pursued.

In that sense, it would behoove the Iranian opposition to specify exactly what they are seeking if they want more widespread international support and Muslim support in particular.





# FLOOD

## DONATION APPEAL

- Extreme rainfalls since the monsoon season began in mid-June & the melting of glaciers due to climate change has led to flooding that has impacted 1 in every 7 people in Pakistan.
- According to government officials, more than 1,300 people have died due to the flooding which has consumed one-third of Pakistan, of the 1,300 people killed, nearly 360 of them were children.
- Additionally, more than 1,500 have been injured, according to the International Rescue Committee.



- A Pakistan Floods Situation Report by the UN confirms that 116 districts across the country have been affected by the floods, while 66 have been officially declared "Calamity Hit."
- In addition to the increasing death toll, 4 million acres of crops have been destroyed & 800,000 livestock have died.
- Damages are estimated to exceed more than \$10 billion.

**Please send your donation to AFMI to help these affected people to provide food, clothes, shelters, medication & rehabilitation.**

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