



Christians' True Spirit - CTS

Annual Report 2016



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1)- DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Like previous years the year 2016 was also not good for religious minorities especially Christians in Pakistan. The innocent citizens brutally killed in the name of war on terror, suicide attacks, and targeted attacks on Para-military forces have been observed across the country. The country also faced political instability, critical law and order situation, judicial crisis and religious intolerance crash the country throughout the year. The state remained failed to execute their policies to discourage extremists and radical elements and unsuccessful to stop the hatred and religious bigotry / propaganda against Christians in Pakistan.

The member of the banned outfit's actively involved in violent activities in the name of religion and against peaceful non-Muslim citizens. The churches were attacked and pastors humiliated and not permitted to organize prayer gatherings at open places, they were also prohibited not to use loudspeaker during the Sunday Prayer Services or any other special religious gatherings. It was also noticed that the false blasphemy accusations and registration of false blasphemy cases by the religious zealots for the completion of their vested interests, create unpleasant atmosphere among citizens. The underage Christian girls forcedly converted into Islam and forced to marry.

CTS also received many complaints of discrimination where Christian employees suffered through inequality and faced discriminatory attitudes by their fellow employees at work places. The bonded laborers at brick kiln factories are living in miserable, worse conditions and many times faced social boycott by the fellow residents who refused to sell grocery and the brick kiln owners wrongfully confined them for advance of loan matters. CTS also noticed that the state totally failed to protect the Christians and the under trial prisoners in religion related cases were harassed and forced to embrace Islam.



**Ms. Katherine Sapna
Director CTS**

CTS expanded its mandate and along with civil society organizations involved to take stand on various human rights violations played an important role in for the protection and promotion of all civil, political, social and cultural rights for all citizens without case and creed. CTS urged the state to ensure guarantee to respect for basic rights and democratic participation of citizens. CTS remained engaged in extensive advocacy at grass root, national and international level in order to draw attention for elimination of all evils poverty, ignorance, violence, coercion, injustices and victimizations and try its level best to raise the core issues faced by the Christians in Pakistan and demonstrated continues struggle to protect religious minorities from hatred, discriminations, violent attacks and maltreatment in the name of religion by the extremists and other religious fundamentalists.

2)-ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all those who provided full of their support throughout the year, especially. My special gratitude to all our partners and friends for contribution in stimulating suggestions and encouragement which greatly helped me to Direct and coordinate CTS activities throughout the year.

Furthermore I would also like to acknowledge with much appreciation the crucial role of the CTS staff and the volunteers especially Sunil Karamat and Dr. Salamat Gill, who really worked hard and my special gratitude to all the team. Special thanks go to the Board of Directors, especially Mr. Sohail Raza Chairman, Mr. Lashari and Mrs Shamshad Shafqat who helped and gave suggestions to keep CTS work continues with enthusiastic way. Last but not least, many thanks go to the Chief Executive Officer of CTS Mr. Asher Sarfraz, who has invested his full effort in guiding the team and supporting to achieve the goal. I have to appreciate the guidance and contribution of Dr. Annette Gräff, Mr. Burkhard Schmitz, Pastor Gundula Rudlof, Mr. Peter Koneing, Fr. Laurentius Hoehn, Mr. Oliver Kunze, Brigitte Hoffmeister and all those who helped and support the execution of CTS activities as well as the project partners, thanks for their commitments, appreciations and advices.

**Katherine Sapna
Director**

3)-EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CTS reported numerous accusations of religious offences are numerous. The critical rising situation of religious persecution, registration of fake cases and discriminatory practices against religious minorities such as misuse of blasphemy laws, injustices at workplace against non-Muslims and attacks on worship places are alarming for great threats to peace of mind and security in the country. The failure of the administration of the criminal justice system is also reflecting in the increased incidence of crimes against women - the number of honor killings, rape, domestic torture, forced conversion & forced marriages of minor Christian girls and acid attacks on Christian women etc. An outright disrespect for fundamental rights, both by the state and the communal elements, was also visible in the crimes and excesses perpetrated against religious minorities. Effective prosecution would serve as a deterrent to future attacks of this nature. It is a primary duty and fundamental responsibility of the state and its subsidiaries to provide protection to all citizens equally.

Over the year CTS visited brick kilns, conducted fact-findings on the incidence of religious persecution, promote formal and informal education and organized awareness seminars and training workshops for the disadvantaged minority communities in the backward areas of Punjab.

Violence against women:

Violence against women is an ugly reality in Pakistan. **Violence against women (VAW)**, also known as **gender-based violence**, is, collectively, violent acts that are primarily or exclusively committed against women sometimes considered a hate crime. This type of violence targets a specific group with the victim's gender a primary motive. This type of violence is gender-based, meaning that the acts of violence are committed against women expressly because they are women. The UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women states that:

"Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women" and that "violence against women is one of the crucial social

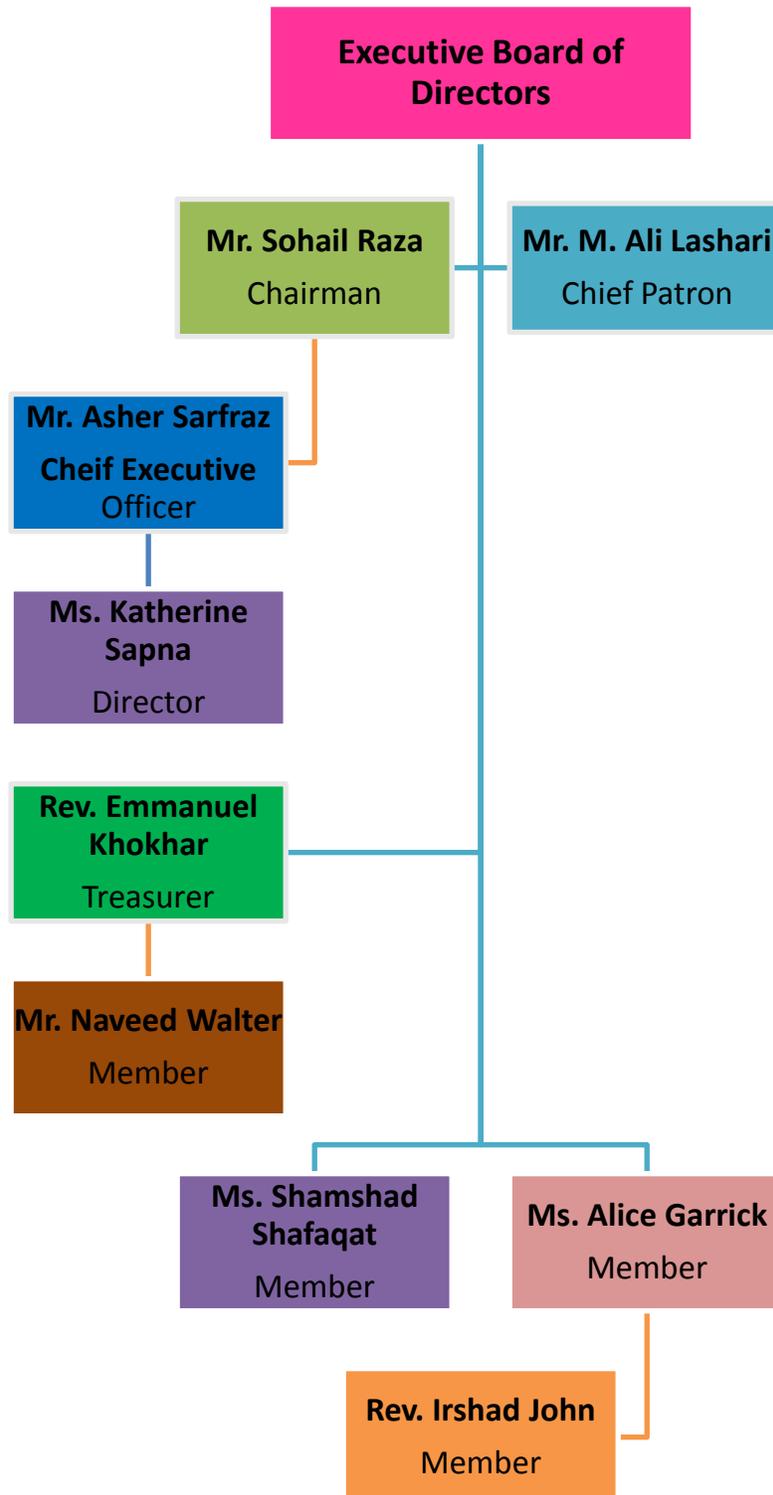
mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men.

Violence against women and girls is a problem of pandemic proportions. At least one out of every three women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime with the abuser usually someone known to her.

Violence against women can fit into several broad categories. These include violence carried out by "individuals" as well as "states". Some of the forms of violence perpetrated by individuals are rape; domestic violence; sexual harassment; coercive use of contraceptives; female infanticide; parental sex selection; obstetric violence and mob violence; as well as harmful customary or traditional practices such as honor killings, dowry violence, female genital and forced marriages.. Some forms of violence are perpetrated or condoned by the state such as war rape; sexual violence and sexual slavery during conflict; forced sterilization; forced abortion; violence by the police and authoritative personnel; stoning and flogging. Many forms of VAW, such as trafficking in women and forced prostitution are often perpetrated by organized criminal networks.

4)- CTS BOARD of Directors

9 members of the executive Board Directing Christians' True Spirit – CTS, who are associated with and promoting human rights since decades and supporting the same concerns which the CTS have.



5)-VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

(i). Martha Bibi

Martha Bibi daughter of Gulzar Masih aged 34, got married with Sunny Gull in the year 1999. The couple was blessed with three children namely Simran aged 14, Sehar aged 8 and Isaac aged 6. After marriage it was disclosed on Martha that her husband Sunny is drug addict and used to drink liquor alcohol. He worked as day laborer but most of the times stayed at home and did not work. It became harder and difficult for Martha to manage food for her children. She was also unable to send her children to school and bear other needs of daily life.

It was stunning for Martha when she come to know about the conversion of her father in-law. he embraced Islam already before her wedding but the matter was not disclosed. Martha was mother of three children and couldn't have any option except to do compromise with the circumstances for the sake of her children's future. She started work as house maid to earn money and therefore her husband raised objection and started quarrelling and forced her to stop working. But Martha did not want that her children suffered and live with empty stomach. Often it happened that whenever Martha opposed him, he started to beat her severely in front of children. In fact her father in-law Nathaniel (Christian name) alias Aslam (Muslim name) always encouraged his son Sunny to give Martha severe beating, he always blamed that Martha is spoiling their children. The situation became worst when Martha asked her husband to give up drugs and earn properly for the sake of children's good life. Sunny started beating her and kicked her out of the house. He never cares about Martha and children and just needed drugs. He asked money from Martha to fulfill the needs of his addiction otherwise beat her when she refused to give money. The rude and inhuman behavior of her husband and in-laws was painful for Martha. Several times she was kicked out from the house but she returned after reconciliation.

On 12 June again Martha was beaten up severely and kicked out from the house. She was again at her sister's place along with her children. After a week on 20 June her husband snatched children from her and left her at her relatives.

Depressed Martha was at her elder sister's place as her parents died a long time ago. She shared the whole situation to her sister, this time Martha do not wanted to compromise with her husband and decided to file a suit for dissolution of marriage in the court. The other side her children Sehar and Isaac were scared of their father's inhuman attitude, Simran was also tolerated a lot, and he abused her, beat her severely and called her names. Therefore all three children escaped from the house when their father was not at home and reached to their mother and narrated the whole episode of

violence and harassment by grandfather and other family members including their father. Martha was scared and approached CTS for legal assistance. The CTS lawyer explained the fundamental rights of children; being minor they cannot be separated from their mother. The lawyer filed a harassment petition for protection of Martha and her children.

Up-date: Through CTS guidance and support Martha became courageous and the court has decided the case in Martha's favor that her children can live with her. The moment she is living with her sister along with children, she is not worried by her husband any more.

(ii). Shazia Bibi

Shazia Bibi aged 22, resident of Kasur got married with Saddique Masih and the couple blessed with two daughters namely Neha aged 06 and Senha aged 05. Her husband worked as laborer, the earning was not enough to support a family of 4 members. Therefore with the concern of husband Shazia started working in a biscuit factory to support her husband. During work in the factory she got involved in to a Muslim co-worker named Mohammad Rakha who started her trapping for marriage. Shazia was already married and had two daughters and she was hesitating in getting married to the other man even Rakha promised Shazia to give her a better life after marriage. He started her poisoning for her poor husband who can never give her a better life. He shared plan with Shazia that after marriage they will move to Karachi where they will live in a beautiful flat and will take a start of new happy life. Shazia without knowing the consequences left her husband and children and went to Karachi with Rakha.

Rakha took Shazia directly to the people who live in a tent without home; later Shazia came to know that they were beggars. Shazia reminded him all promises and asked him to bring her to his own flat for which he started to make lame excuses.

Now it was already one month passed when Rakha forced Shazia to work as prostitute for earning. He started beating and torturing her as he never interested in her and never loved her but only interested to take her in confidence and to bring her for the profession of prostitution. Then Shazia decided to go back to her first husband house. She asked Rakha to arrange for her return but Rakha did not allow her to go back to her parents. He threatened Shazia for dire consequences and warned her for life if she tries to escape. She was bound to welcome everyday a new client or many. One fine day Shazia got chance to escape and reached another district named Okara in Punjab. Here she started collecting waste papers and plastic bottles to be able to collect money for home return. When she had enough money she was ready to go back, when unexpectedly two motorbike riders chased Shazia and finally stopped her on the way to

station. They took her to an unknown place and forced her for the sexual intercourse. Shazia strongly and bravely resisted the men who beat Shazia severely and afterwards thrown acid in to her mouth which burns her throat damaged her stomach. She was critically injured and motorbike riders ran away from the scene. Shazia was help by unknown and shifted in to the District Hospital Okara where she was referred to the Jinnah Hospital, Lahore for proper and accurate treatment. During her treatment in the Hospital Shazia was able to get success to make contact with her husband and other family members.

One of her family members approached CTS for medical as well as legal support. CTS helped the victim according to her need for medicine and care and other living expenses. On this information Katherine Sapna Director CTS, Salamat Gill Coordinator, Asifa Sadaf Program Manager and Asif Raza team member visited Shazia twice at Jinnah Hospital Lahore and provided appropriate legal as well as medical assistance.

(iii). Saba Ijaz



A Christian couple Ijaz Masih and Nazia Bibi visited CTS office and informed a criminal case against their 15 years daughter Saba Ijaz, alleged by the a Muslim employer. According to details Saba Ijaz was working for Muhammad Mushtaq Baig and Muhammad Ijaz Baig as maid servant since last two years and was alleged by the Muslim employers for stealing of prize bonds worth of Pak Rupees 80,000/- (Eighty thousand rupees US\$ 765 approximately).

Nazia Bibi further informed that the Muslim employers illegally confined Saba in a room and pressurized her to admit the crime (theft). She was severely beaten and threatened for dire consequences and she was not allowed meet with the parents and inhumanly tortured physically and mentally for several hours. In the evening at about 6:00 pm when Saba did not return Nazia Bibi (the mother) was concerned for daughter, she went

to her work place and inquired about her. The Muslim family denied to give any information about Saba and said that she was not on work that day. Nazia Bibi was astonished as she herself brings her daughter to the work place in routine, got worried seriously, meanwhile she heard the cries of Saba, calling her mother and telling her that she was inside the locked room.



Parents of Saba meeting with Director CTS

only agreeing to leave Saba if she admits crime. The unsightly attitude and unkind behavior of Muslim family especially Mohammad Mushtaq Baig and Mohammad Ijaz Baig; Saba's mother was scared and she requested Mushtaq Baig that if he clearly know that Saba is thief, then they will manage the money to return. Mushtaq Baig asked Saba and her mother for the money Rs. 80,000 rupees (US\$765) and required the National Identity Cards copies of Saba's parents and relatives as a guarantee that they will return the money.

Nazia Bibi cried for her daughter that why she been beaten severely. Mohammad Mushtaq Baig threatened the mother too and did not allow her to take the girl home. They warned Saba that if she will not admit the theft they will file a complaint in the police station and she will be sent to the Jail for years. The poor mother requested Mohammad Mushtaq Baig to release her daughter but he was



Nazia Bibi aggrieved mother of victim Saba narrating facts to Ms. Katherine Sapna

It was pity that the parents of Saba requested area people (Muslim and Christians) to talk to Mohammad Mushtaq about the innocence of Saba and make him realized that the poor parents were not in position to pay a heavy amount of Rs.80,000 rupees. But the Muslim neighbors pressurized them even more and said that they should return money otherwise they will face the consequences.

Soon after the incident Nazia and Ijaz (Saba's parents) received call notice

by the local Police Station Shalimar Lahore for inquiry on the complaint of Mohammad Mustaq Baig. During the investigation the officer asked Saba that if she committed offence. Saba refused to admit crime in her statement as she said that she never steals anything in two years work. Saba also said that she does not know what the prize bond is and she never saw them in life. Investigation officer pressurized the poor family to return Rs.50,000 rupees to Mohammad Mushtaq Baig and suggested them to settle the matter outside the police station otherwise there would be a theft case registered against Saba. Saba's parents facing social pressure and severe life threats for involving them in a court case, therefore they were committed to pay Rs.50,000 rupees on October 18, 2016 but they could not manage the money till the date.

After learning the complete details; the same day on October 19, 2016 CTS team comprising on Ms. Katherine Sapna (Director), Dr. Salamat Gill (Coordinator) and Barbara Francis (volunteer) visited the young girl Saba aged 15 and Rozi aged 18 at their relatives place. Mohammad Mushta warned the parents of Saba that he will take her in the custody and kept her at unknown place and they will never know. Therefore Nazia Bibi and Ijaz Masih took his both girls to his relatives place for safety.

Statement of Saba Ijaz:



File photo of victim Saba Ijaz

Talking to CTS team Saba informed that she is an illiterate, whose father is sick for last 3 years with a serious disease and unable to earn money to manage household. Saba and his elder sister Rozi Ijaz age 18 use to work as maid servant along with their mother Nazia Bibi since last 5 years. She is working at Mohammad Mushtaq Baig's house for last two years and serves the family including his son Mohammad Ijaz Baig. She further informed that Ijaz Baig does not work and mostly stays at home, stares her and pass the compliments during her work. According to the information by Saba, since last two months Mohammad Ijaz Baig insisted her to build illicit relations. She refused him again and again and asked him strictly for complain to his family especially to his father Mushtaq Baig. Mohammad Ijaz Baig warned her for dire consequences if she disclosed his wishes and extra involvement towards her. Saba does not feel easy to work in this situation and just a week earlier the incident she informed the sister in-law of Ijaz Baig to arrange another worker as she want to stop work for Baig's family. She is innocent in this case and just blamed because Ijaz Baig wants her at the work and wishing to fulfill his desires for lust.

Meeting with Rev. Saleem Manassy: CTS team visited the local Pastor Rev. Saleem



CTS team with Pastor Saleem Manassy

Manassy from the Greater Grace Church of Pakistan, Christians Park Mehmood Booti Lahore and asked if he can make some influence in the case of Saba as an area priest. The Pastor assured the team for every kind of possible support but regarding the case of Saba he is helpless. He informed that Saba's Parents were extremely pressurized by the Muslims including Mohammad Mushtaq Baig therefore they have admitted the return of Money. Ijaz Masih and Nazia Bibi have

signed the stamp paper with their thumb impressions and also submitted the copies of their CNIC cards and also committed the return of money in the police station too, and now they have to pay the required amount in any cost, said Pastor Saleem.

Visit to the Shalimar Police Station:

The complaint against Saba for robbing the prize bond is registered in the local police station Salimar Lahore. CTS team visited the Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad Investigation In-charge and Mohammad Liaquat Sub-Inspector in the Shalimar Police Station. It was very complicated to know the situation of the legal case after taking to the officials. Mr. Liaquat informed the team that the girl is underage and police can never register a case FIR against the minor. While Mr. Ahmad gave the totally different statement and said as they have admitted to return the money back they would have to pay and it shows clearly that the girl is thief. After learning the case, Ms. Katherine Sapna, Director CTS, asked the Investigation Officer to re-investigate the matter, as the girl is completely innocent and the poor parents will not pay a single penny. She also said that CTS believes the cooperation of Police otherwise we will knock the every door for justice.



Victim Saba with her parents

Presently, Saba and her sister Rozy along with their parents are in CTS shelter and we hope to deal with this matter in the police station, otherwise we will file harassment petition in the Session Court Lahore through the CTS legal counsel.

A few pictures from the visit of the house of victim Family



Saba and her mother narrating the facts behind the case

6). FORCED CONVERSION & FORCED MARRIAGE

(i). Naina Bibi



File photo of victim Naina

fellows, Ilyas and his wife Safia has good relations to Muslim neighbors.

A Christian girl Naina aged 17, a student of 5th standards and daughter of Ilyas Masih and Safia Bibi was abducted, raped, forcedly converted in to Islam and forcefully married to a Muslim man. Ilyas Masih poor father of Naina worked as a government employee whiles her mother work as a house maid. Naina along with parents and two other siblings namely Fiaz aged 15 and Issaq aged one month lived in a servant quarter provided by the government. The only Christian family among the Muslim

It was June 23' 2016, when Ilyas and his wife returned home after their daily work, their daughter Naina was missing from the house. They started search for her at neighbors, family and friends but could not find her. Afterwards Ilyas went to the area police station and informed about the abduction of his daughter and requested for the registration of criminal case FIR but the duty officer refused to register his case. Ilyas continuously visited Police Station and requested to file an application for his daughter, finally after three days of continues demand a case FIR No. 225/2016 offence under 496-A PPC registered against unknown persons. Later it was revealed on the parents about the involvement of Saba one of the neighbors. Sana kidnapped Naina and therefore Ilyas Masih filed another application for registration of case against Sana and her husband Shoukat. The concerned police officer did not took the matter seriously and joined hands with the accused and submitted investigation report in the favor of culprits and blamed Naina for leaving house willingly and spending her marriage life with the man of her choice. The poor parents were not satisfied with the police investigation therefore they filed another application for the fair investigation but all in vain.

On November 26, 2016 Naina suddenly returned to her parents. She was injured and in very poor condition she asked her parents to save her life otherwise the kidnappers will kill here. The parents immediately contacted CTS and requested for the safe lodging of their distressed daughter. They approached CTS on December 03 2016 along with Naina and she provided following information.



Naina along with her father visited CTS office

Naina said, “On the day of incident 23rd June, 2016, I was alone at home and was busy in washing dishes and other household work and a lady from our Muslim neighbored named Sana wife of Shoukat visited and found me alone at home and invited to visit her home. I categorically refused and promised that I will surely visit but not now and some other day but Sana insisted and requested me to come as she has prepared special sweet dish (Kheer) and invited me to eat. After eating sweet (Kheer) I lost my senses. Naina said. After hours when I came

into my senses, I found myself at mysterious place. My feet and arms

were chained and eyes were covered and tide with a cloth. I begged for my release but they beat me up severely and treated me inhumanly. A woman named Samina was assigned to inject me twice a day to make me unaware and unconsciousness and during unconsciousness I was raped and pregnant. Later, I was informed through Samina that my marriage was decided with her brother. I argued and shouted and Samina beaten me up severely and burnt my face with hot wooden stick. My face badly injured with the heat and got burn marks on the right side of my face.

Naina lived in an illegal custody of culprits and after six months she was escaped when no one was at the place where they kept her she came to her parents directly. Naina requested help from CTS as she wanted to file a criminal case against those responsible.

The parents asked CTS for legal assistance as well as shelter for Naina at “PANAHA” a house for destitute women and girls. CTS discussed and consulted the matter with the legal team of advocates and planned to provide appropriate legal assistance to Naina including filing an application before the honorable court of area Magistrate for recording the statement of Naina as well as to precede legal case against the accused.

(ii). Gulnaz Alias Zainab Bibi



**Mushtaq Masih narrating the facts of forced conversion
Of his daughter Gulnaz**

A Christian girl Gulnaz aged 13 daughter of Mushtaq Masih and Musarat Bibi, resident of village of Jaranwala, Punjab province. Her father Mushtaq Masih is a laborer by profession and mother is housewife. The other siblings in the family are Ishfaq Masih aged 6 and Mehnaz aged 04. According to Mushtaq Masih, Yousaf Masih aged 50 and his wife Sajida Bibi have five children therefore

Gulnaz d/o Mushtaq Masih used to go to their house to play with girls of her age.

The both families had trust worthy relations for years no one can even think about Yousaf that he had any bad intentions for Gulnaz (minor). Yousaf often visited Gulnaz house and tried to make her influenced the things were noticed by his own wife Sajada and she inquired the matter. When Sajada asked Yousaf about Gulnaz he clearly refused by taking an oath on Bible and said that Gulnaz is just like his own daughters. Mushtaq had a blind trust on Yousaf and never inquired about the matters in routine.

On 1 March 2016 when Mushtaq was away for some work, his wife was alone at home along with children. Yousaf took benefit and gave some eatable stuff mixed with drugs to Gulnaz's mother to make them all faint. After eating the all family members become lifeless, Yousaf easily abducted Gulnaz and escaped.

Next morning, on 2nd March 2016 Mushtaq returned home and found his family in unconscious condition whereas Gulnaz was not present among them. He inquired with the neighbors but no one knew the situation Mushtaq and the family tried hard to find out Gulnaz in the locality but remained fail. Mushtaq also visited Yousaf's house and inquired about Gulnaz but he came to know that Yousaf was also missing. On asking Sajada Bibi (Yousaf's wife) told that it is not suspicious for her family if Yousaf is not at home because often he went out for day or days. But one of the residents informed Mushtaq that yesterday night he saw Yousaf with a young girl and may be his missing daughter.



**Mushtaq Masih his wife met with Ms. Katherine Sapna
While visiting CTS Office**

Slowly, they recalled and find the information as true, later Mushtaq filed an application at the area police station for the registration of kidnapping case FIR against Yousaf Masih. After the registration of case FIR in May 2016 Yousaf Masih sent a conversion certificate of Gulnaz and certificate (Nikah Nama) of Islamic marriage along with a statement of Gulnaz, which she recorded before the Magistrate

about her free consent for marriage with Yousaf Masih. It is important to share that in the Muslim marriage certificate her age was mentioned as 23 years and changed their names as Yousaf Ali and Zainab Bibi. It was also revealed that many of family members of Yousaf Masih got married after embracing Islam. Later it was informed that Yousaf and his family threatened Gulnaz for not to give statement against him and if so, her father and mother will be killed and warned for dire consequences. After this whole situation Mushtaq Masih approached CTS and requested for help to get his daughter back.

CTS lawyer had filed a habeas corpus petition before the Lahore High Court and on 27 June 2016, the petition fixed before the High Court and notices served to the Investigating Officer of case FIR No. 208 / 16 of Police Station Saddar Jaranwala, District Faisalabad and adjourned the court hearing for 30 June 2016. On the said date of hearing the investigation officer seeks some time to produce her on the next date of hearing. In between the deputy attorney general (Prosecutor) requested some time for recovery of the kidnapped / minor Gulnaz. Upon the request of the prosecutor the honorable Judge called the Station House Officer (SHO), Police Jaranwal, District Faisalabad, in person and directed him to produce minor Gulnaz on 1 July 2016. On the said date of hearing Gulnaz produced before the court and the Judge gave some time for meeting with her mother and after meeting Gulnaz recorded her statement against her parents and informed the court that wants to stay with her husband Yousaf Ali. After

statement the Judge disposed off the petition and allowed her to stay with her Muslim husband.

(iii). Saima Rasheed



File photo of Saima Rasheed

On February 17, 2016 Rasheed Pervaiz aged 58, Iqbal Bhatti about 50 years old approached Christians' True Spirit (CTS) and asked for legal assistance in kidnapping case; they lodged against Muslims named Mohammad Murad Ali, Mohammad Feryad Ali and others in Chung Police Station District Lahore; police did not pursue the case against Muslims as per law and legislations.

Rasheed Pervaiz informed Ms. Katherine Sapna Director CTS, that Saima Rasheed aged 17 was abducted by the neighbor Muslims on January 28, 2016 and raped. Muslims subjected her for forced conversion and forced marriage after kidnapping case FIR lodged against perpetrators.

Case FIR no. 169/16 offence under section 496-A according to Pakistan Penal Code, lodged against Mohammad Nadeem s/o Faryad Ali, Mohammad Murad s/o Faryad Ali etc by Rasheed Pervaiz in the Chung Police Station Lahore but the said police joined hands with the culprits and did not take any legal action against them. The poor Christian father of Saima requested police for the recovery of her daughter but police has have been making false excuses and provided opportunity to the culprits to get pre-arrest bails from the court on February 11, 2016. The bails were granted by the Additional Session Court Lahore for a week and the confirmation of bails fixed for February 18, 2016.

Rasheed and other family wanted to see Saima and ask her willingness for conversion to Islam and marriage, but the Muslims never allowed her to see parents because she had been forced for conversion. During the bail period the accused managed conversion as well as marriage certificate of Saima Rasheed and submitted with the concerned police officer Khalid Virik Investigation Officer (IO) in the police station.

The poor family needed council to appear in the court to contest the bail applications of the accused on February 18, 2016. Immediately CTS provided a council to the family to contest the bail applications of the culprits in the court.

Subsequently, on Feb 18, Khalid Virik Investigation Officer presented investigation report in the court and submitted conversion as well as marriage certificates of Saima

Bajwa along with the dismissal of the case FIR. He said on behalf of Saima that she is not willing to see her Christian parents any more but happy with her husband in Islamic marriage. The bail applications were withdrawn by the culprits and the case was dismissed.

Rasheed Pervaiz and Iqbal Bhatti asked CTS for legal support in filling a private complaint in the High Court against the culprits for the custody of their daughter Saima Rasheed as they believed that Saima was forcedly converted. CTS assured all kind of assistance to the family in this case and provided lawyer to file a private complaint in the High court Lahore. "Being younger in all children she was favorite child of parents" said Rasheed Pervaiz. He further stated that he is broken hearted and very much disappointed. For a month he has been struggling to get his beloved daughter back from the Muslim's custody but remained failed.

Facts behind the case:

Saima Rasheed, beautiful young girl, student of 9th grade lived along with her parents at Badami Bagh Lahore, surrounded by Muslim community. She was intelligent Christian girl who dreamed a successful life after completing her studies. About 1 ½ year ago Rasheed had a dispute with Muslim neighbors Mohammad Murad Ali and Faryad Ali, and they warned him for severe consequences. Subsequently, Muhammad Murad started misbehaving and passing dirty compliments to Saima while passing through. Therefore Rasheed Pervaiz changed his resident place and shifted about 25 kilometers from the his last residence or the disputed area.

Note: Forced conversion is a big challenge for religious minorities in Pakistan. According to a report of Pakistani Muslim NGO, every year between 100 to 700 Christian women, "usually between the ages of 12 and 25 are abducted, converted to Islam, and married to the abductor or third party" (source World Watch Monitor).

Not only Rasheed Pervaiz but also several other Christian parents waiting for the justice and seeking help to get back their daughters from the custody of Muslims. It is just helplessness that the courts are prejudiced too and support culprits on the name of Islam instead they proved justice.

7)- ATTACKS ON WORSHIP PLACES

(i). Free Apostolic Church Set ablaze in Punjab, Lahore



File photo of burnt Church

On January 06, 2016 Apostolic Church set ablaze by Muslim extremists after a minor dispute among local Muslims and Christians at village Bath near Shamki Bhattian Multan Road Lahore. Pastor Asher from Shamki Bhattian and Pastor Mehboob another local Pastor informed Ms. Katherine Sapna Director CTS, through a telephonic call that the local Christians organized a healing prayer in the church in the late evening on January 06, 2015. It was a big meeting organized outside the church room and managed tents for people in the open air. Pastors also informed that the local Christians used loudspeakers during their all services and meetings in the Apostolic Church.

During worship few Molvies (prayer leaders) approached Pastor Yaqoob Saroya In-charge the church to ask him put the Loud Speaker Off as it was a time of Islamic prayers as well but the Christians requested that after completion of prayer service they will put off. Whereas the visiting clerics were disagree to compromise and immediately wants to off the Church's loud speaker. Pastor also stated that at the end of the worship Christians left to their houses but the aggressive extremists Muslims set the church on fire, as the idea was to harm the church building and burnt all the tents fixed in the church yard for Prayer meeting.

After CTS get information about the incident a team comprised on Mr. Suneel Karamat, Mr. Qaiser Yousaf and Pastor Zulfqar visited the place of occurrence, meeting with Christian residents and gathered the facts. The CTS met the locals and most of the

local Christians believe that Muslims burn the church but there is no evidence or witness of the incident against the Muslims. Therefore few Christians also think that it may be an electric short-circuit which give fire to the tents place in the Church yard as well as the building.

The CTS team visited Manga Mandi Police Station to get a copy of the FIR and requested the police for the fair and partial investigation in this matter to find out the reason of fire in the Church. Secondly the police should play a positive role to control any religious situation in this area by taking a severe legal action against the responsible to give lesson to others to be careful doing such things next time. CTS strongly condemned such issues of religious minorities as well as worship places and pray that Peace, Love and Harmony could prevail worldwide and especially in Pakistan.

(ii). Armed Policeman disgraced Church premises and beat a Pastor in Fazlia Colony Lahore



Pastor Riaz narrating the facts

Pastor Riaz Rehmat aged 45, father of two and pastor in-charge of United Christian Church, Fazlia Colony Lahore is residing on the rooftop of the church. According to Pastor the church is 50 years old and his grandfather donated this land for the church. The year 2016 is the Golden Jubilee year of the church and preparing to celebrate. The CTS team visited the Pastor and found the following details

about the incident and other related actions etc:

The incident

On June 12, 2016 the day of Sunday Pastor Riaz was leading the prayer session. As per security reasons the police deployed for the church security. All of sudden the same police party who deployed for security entered in the church and started beating the

pastor, used abusive language and ordered to stop the worship. This unexpected violence disturbed the worshipers who got scared. Later it was disclosed that a Muslim resident, residing in front of main gate of the church complied at police emergency number and informed that the church's loudspeaker is disturbing them.



The complainant Shabir Shah falsely blamed as the loudspeaker was placed inside the church and not out of the church. It was also found that complainant was annoyed and time to time harassed Christians as well as the Pastor to stop organizing and conducting prayer services in the church. The locals informed the team that Shabir Shah is the only Muslim in the

CTS Team with Pastor Riaz and local Christian residents locality, who objected over church assembly. The police party was present for the church security and without inquiring the facts they disrespect the dignity of the church and manhandled with Pastor Riaz, the locals reported. Shabir Shah is the only Muslim who does not want Christians to reside in the locality while the rest of Muslims have cordial relations among Christians.

Protest demonstration

Following the manhandling with Pastor and disgrace the dignity of church the Christians staged protest demonstration and demanded arrest and departmental inquiry against the accused policemen. The Deputy Superintendent of Police reached for dialogue with the protestors and informed them for suspension of the said police personnel and assured for fair investigation and registration of case FIR and stern action would be initiate against Shabir Shah. After the assurance of high rank police officer for justice, the protestors peacefully ended the protest. Later, after political influence case FIR was not registered and the matter closed after forced deed of compromise. On the other side the concerned quarters from the government assured justice but nothing happened and the matter later closed without any end. The CTS team assured Pastor Riaz for full support and ensured him that if he needs any legal help the CTS will provide accordingly.

8)-VICTIMS' OF FAITH

(i). Police tortured a Christian to death in Gujranwala Punjab



The aggrieved family of deceased Liaquat Masih Hospital Gujranwala, and declared Heart Attack as the cause of death and the doctors duly mentioned heart attack as a cause of death in the post-mortem report of Liaquat Masih.

Through sources Christians' True Spirit (CTS) came to know about the killing of Liaquat Masih in Police custody. Liaquat Masih died on Wednesday January 13, 2016 midnight at about 2:00 am during the police investigation and torture in a theft case in the Rahwali Cantt Police Station Gujranwala.

Next morning police took the dead body of Liaquat Masih for the post-mortem in the District



Mr. Sarfraz Karamat with visited the victim family
Hameed for last 15 years.

Following the information Immediately Mr. Sarfraz Karamat District Coordinator CTS in Gujranwala reached at Village Klasskaye Kot Proya, about 20 kilometers from Gujranwala city. Mr. Karamat saw the dead body of the Liaquat Masih (victim) and met his mourning wife Rubina Bibi her son Khurram aged 22 and 3 other children for solidarity. Mr. Sarfraz Karamat reported the following facts collected through the locals and family statements!

Liaquat Masih aged 45 resident of Klasskaye Kot Paroya District Gujranwala worked as driver at the house of S A Hameed, President Pakistan

Tehreek-e-Insaaf in Gujranwala of last 15 years. He was hardworking and trustable servant of S A

On November 15, 2015 Raza Hameed s/o S A Hameed lodged theft complain against unknown, in the Police Station Rahwali Cantt, on November 15, 2015 and get registered

a case FIR no.570/2015 offence under section 457 and 380 of Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) stealing for trespassing the house at midnight and stealing valuable things.

Statement of Rubina Bibi w/o Liaquat Masih:



The women family members crying for justice

Rubina Informed CTS that S A Hameed and his son Raza Hameed accused Liaquat Masih for stealing valuable material including watches, jewelry, US Dollars (currency of United States) and Saudi Riyal (currency of Saudi Arabia) etc cost 2 Karor. He also blamed

Rubina Bibi wife of Liaquat Masih and Khuram Masih aged 22 his elder son for theft. Hameed has been beating and torturing Liaquat

Masih, his son and other servants time to time himself and forced

them to admit the robbery. During investigation he beat severely another Christian couple Rubina and Babar Masih who do cleaning at his house and inquired with the cook who left job already since six months. After due formalities S A Hameed released all servants from the case but did not released Liaquat and Khurram and have been investigating the matter privately at his place. Later Raza Hameed asked police to start investigation with servants of S A Hameed, including Liaquat Masih and his son. Police set freed all servants but continually and repeatedly tortured Liaquat Masih and Khurram Masih and kept them at police lockup for weeks in illegal detention.

Rubina Bibi asked help from local influenced Nasir Cheema (a local political personality



The CTS Coordinator collecting the facts

and other local influenced political leadership to help his son and husband to get release from the police custody. S A Hameed did not care of any influenced approached him to be sympatric to innocent poor servants. Nasir Cheema asked a lawyer named Imran Arif Khokher advocate high court based Gujranwala to deal this matter legally as he wanted to help victims at this poor time. Imran Arif Khokher advocate filed pre-arrest bails of Liaquat Masih and Khurram Masih in the Session's Courts Gujranwala, after two or three day to day hearings they got pre arrest bails on January 13, 2016 till January 19, 2016. Liaquat and Khurram get released from the two months illegal detention of police.

Statement of Khurram s/o Liaquat Masih:

Khurram informed Ms. Katherine Sapna Director CTS over telephone that on January 13, 2016 after bails they were on the way to home when police again arrested both and took them to the Rahwali Cantt Police Station. Police constables started severe torture to Khurram on the order of the Station House Officer (SHO) while Raza Hameed s/o S A Hameed was present in the police station to encourage police for the torture and killing of Liaquat. Raza Hameed also gave a big amount as bribery to the SHO, Khurram stated. He was deeply grieved and added that Police hanged naked Liaquat Masih and tortured him inhumanly and cruelly with wooden roads till death on January 14, 2016 at 2:00 am (midnight). Khurram informed CTS Director, he cried and begged before the SHO for the life of his father but no one heard his cries. Police killed his father before his eyes and threatened him for the same consequences if he disclosed the names of police officials who tortured him and his father, he added.

The local Christians staged protest demonstration:

On January 14, in the morning police took the dead body of Liaquat Masih to the District Hospital Gujranwala to conduct Post-mortem and asked doctors to declare heart attack as a cause of death. Police also published statement in the News papers about the death of Liaquat Masih with heart attack. The locals informed Mr. Sarfraz Karamat coordinator CTS about protest demonstration they staged the same day at the front of Cantt Police Station.

Police tortured the people including women and children who staged protest demonstration on the main road of Rahwali Cantt. They also shared inhuman behavior of police towards protesters and open threats for severe consequences by police. The women shared their wounds and injuries which they got by police violence. On January 15, 2016 dead body of Liaquat Masih was handed over to the family, Khurram Masih was brought to home in police custody for the funeral and burial of his father, as the police wanted to take him back to the Police Station after rite.

Christian Leadership action:

On January 15, 2016 Christian Leadership including Ms. Shonila Ruth Member Punjab Assembly (Pakistan Tehrek-e-Insaaf) gathered at the office of Capital Police Officer (CPO) Gujranwala Region and asked for the immediate legal action against the responsible Raza Hameed, S A Hameed president PTI Gujranwala, SHO Rahwali Cantt Police Station and other police officers of the same police station who killed Liaquat Masih, and lodge a Legal Case FIR under section 302 according to the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC). The same day CPO released order for the registration of the case FIR and for the immediate arrest of nominated.

Victim's Family detail:

Deceased left a young wife Rubina Bibi aged about 38, school going two sons and two daughter including Khurram Masih the eldest one, aged 22, student of intermediate First Year. Rubina Bibi is house wife and never been at the place of S A Hameed (accused).

Highlights of CTS and concerns:

- Liaquat Masih and Khurram Masih were not nominated accused of theft or robbery in the case FIR 570/2015 registered by Raza Hameed.
- Police kept Liaquat and his son in illegal detention and tortured physical
- The lawyer filed pre-arrest bails on behalf of Liaquat and Khurram, instead he filed habeas petition for the recovery of the déten
- The poor victims could not get access to the on time proper legal help and become the victim of police inhumanity and cruelty.
- How the police could get arrested Liaquat and Khurram on January 13, while they were on the pre-arrest bails till January 19, 2016.
- There must be maladministration and interest of bribery that police killed poor Liaquat Masih.

This is not the first case when Punjab Police killed a Christian in police torture. CTS urged Punjab Government to take serious notice on target killing of Christians by police and also said that we can no more tolerate such kinds of advances of Police and asked Prime Minister Pakistan and Chief Minister of Punjab for the justice.

Action of CTS:

Katherine Sapna Director CTS, urge Chief Minister to take notice of the target killing of innocent Christians previously and presently. CM should take Legal action against the responsible police officers and do Justice with the mourning family/dependents/children and must pay compensation to the legal heirs, she added.

Secondly, Christians' True Spirit (CTS) writing letters to the Prime Minister Pakistan, Chief Minister Punjab, Federal Minister for Interior, Federal Minister of Law and Human Rights Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights Ministry, Governor of Punjab, Minister of Law, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Pakistan and Chief Justice Lahore High Court, to voice its deep concern regarding the killing of Liaquat Masih and physical torture to Khurram Masih in the illegal detention of police, to take immediate action for arrest of culprits including SHO, IO and other police officers at Rahwali Cantt Police Station and do justice.

(ii). Musa Attique



File photo of Musa Attique

Musa Attique, a resident of District Kasur, Punjab is the only Christians teacher at Government High School No. 1, Kot Radha Kishan Kasur. Being a Christian employee among majority of Muslim staff Musa was persecuted and hated on religious grounds and the other side Christian students were also victimized due to faith differences.

It was daily routine that Muslim teachers disrespected Christianity and made hate speeches in the school during the Morning Prayer/assembly. They used loudspeaker and instigate students and surrounding Muslim residents and created hatred against minorities especially Christians. It was difficult for him to tolerate

and that was the reason he brought the matter to the school headmaster. The headmaster did not take any action interest in resolving the matter. Upon this attitude Musa requested the headmaster that being a school staff he has also right to say a few words in the school assembly but he was emphatically refused to do. After bring the matter in to the attention of school management he wrote an application to the Station House Officer of the area police station about the attitude of Muslim teachers towards him and the Christian students. Keeping in view the sensitivity of matter the concerned police officer visited school and found the Muslim teachers guilty and warned them to avoid hate

speech during the school time especially the school assembly. Those teachers were not happy with Musa and they get involved the area politicians in this matter. While on the other side the Muslim teachers, those involved got transferred in other schools but wrote to the management against Musa. The matter was later sent to the Deputy Superintendent of Police for further action and during the course of investigation the Muslim teachers were found guilty whereas those all guilty teachers become less tolerate towards Musa. Instead of taking any legal action the concerned police started making lame excuses and did not conclude the inquiry report against the responsible teachers.



**Wife and two children of victim
Musa Attique**



Musa was very much disappointed and finally he wrote a letter to the EDO (Executive Director Officer), DEO (District Education Officer), to the Chief Minister (Punjab) and also wrote to the different NGOs, Agencies but could not find any solution. Later, the District Education Officer called upon an inquiry in which Musa requested the concerned officers for his job transfer to any other government school because he was not feeling that the school environment was secure for him.

The situation became astonishing when he went for joining in the office of District Education Officer and was informed that the concerned officer only do to settle the matter for time being and he was transferred in a government school 20km far from his residence. The office staff also harassed and warned him for dire consequences. Later, the District Coordination Officer forced him for compromise and to withdraw his application. Musa was agreed upon reconciliation but demanded a written agreement of settlement but the Muslim teachers were not agreed. Keeping in view the worst situation of religious persecution left the district along with family. Musa was facing serious consequences and suffering financially and living under miserable condition and his children not going to school. Musa approached CTS along with his family including wife, son and daughter and requested for the safe accommodation. Musa Attique along with his family was provided protection at CTS safe house for a limited period of 6 months.

9)-MINORITIES UNDER ATTACK

(i). Suicide Blast in Lahore on Easter Day



Sight view after suicide blast in Lahore on the day of Easter

Lahore the capital of Province Punjab was rocked with a powerful bomb blast on Sunday evening, the day of Easter, killing more than 85 including 70 Christians and injuring over a 300. The deafening explosion took place inside a children's park known as Gulshan-i-Iqbal Park at Iqbal Town on March 27, 2016 at around 6:30 pm when it was teeming with families, especially women and children, enjoying the Sunday and Easter holiday. According to different sourced near about 5-6 kg of explosives may have been used in the explosion, which was heard in a large part of Lahore.

The explosion was a suicide attack. There were scattered body parts in the park, where a large number of families, especially Christian women and children, were present on a Sunday evening. The crowd was "unusually large" because of Easter. Most of the injured were women and children. "Still a big number of people are in critical condition and according to the doctors the death toll may rise, because the injured needed blood which was not easily available in the hospitals for such a big number of patients in the emergency.

It's only a year passed, when twin suicide attacks conducted by Taliban at Youhanabad Catholic Church and the Christ Church, about 30 Christians were killed including women, children and youth on March 15, 2015. Pakistan is plagued in a terror insurgency by the banned outfits, the gang of criminals and promoters of sectarian violence. Punjab is its biggest and wealthiest province where the militant groups are based; who used to more or often attack minority communities especially Christians in previous years.

There was an open threat by Islamists to target Christians after the execution of Mumtaz Qadri. The followers of Qadri pressurized and warned the government to hang Asia Bibi before March 27, 2016 (Easter day) otherwise there would be severe

consequences. But the government of Punjab was not seriously worried about the threats for the Christians and did not ask for the vigilant security. The leaders of local mainstream political groups, NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, Churches, International Governments and especially Pope Francis has condemned the incident of Ghulshan-i-Iqbal Park Lahore and killing of innocent people.

As usual Federal and Punjab government has announced cash of 10, 00,000/- PKR (ten hundred thousand rupees) for those who are killed in the blast, 300,000PKR (three hundred thousand rupees) for the serious injured and 150,000PKR (one hundred and fifty thousand rupees) for those who are normally injured. On March 29, 2016 the government has started cheques distribution among a few affected Muslim families in Samanabad Lahore. It is the only hope that the government of Pakistan fairly distributes the committed money as compensation to the victims of brutal attack equally as the Christians always faced discrimination by the government. The rangers (army forces) and other law and forces agencies has started operation in Punjab and surroundings to overcome the terrorism.

But! The question is; what is the next; is this the last brutal attack on Christians? Are the Christians safe in Pakistan; why the Government is failed to protect minorities and for how long Christians and other minorities has to face killing of their loved one in Pakistan. Decades passed but the suffering of Christians remained the same.

Christians' True Spirit (CTS) hope that the Government of Pakistan may perhaps take a serious notice of the killing of the innocents in this brutal attack, and could implement such a security measures to provide safe Pakistan to the public at large.

(ii). Hindu man held in Ghotki doe “desecration” Holy book of Muslims

A Hindu man Sateesh Kumar was arrested for allegedly desecrating Holy Quran following massive protests and shutdown by Muslim community in Ghotki District of Sindh. According to the reports from CTS resources, Sateesh Kumar was “caught and handed over” to the local police by the residents of village Mehrab Samejo for allegedly “desecrating” Holy Quran.

The sources said that a large number of people in Daharki, Mirpur, Mathelo, Ghotki and adjoining areas blocked National Highway for more than six hours while protesting against the alleged desecration of the holy Book of Islam. They have been demanding “severe punishment” for the accused. A First-Information Report (FIR) was registered against Sateesh Kumar under section 295 - B of the Pakistan Penal Code. The district administration called help from Pakistan Rangers to control the violent mob. There have been several incidents of communal disharmony in the Ghotki district over the past few

years, said sources. According to the protesters, the accused entered a mosque and “set the holy scripture on fire”.

After taking the Hindu man in custody, police moved him to an undisclosed location for his safety and assured the full cooperation of the police and law enforcement agencies to control and calm down the tense situation. Later the aggressive mob of extremists killed a young Hindu boy while another one was seriously injured following communal tensions in a town in Pakistan’s southern Sindh province

According to reports, Satish Kumar, 18, and his friend Avinash, 17, were sitting outside a restaurant near Iqbal Petrol Pump in Mirpur Mathelo on night of July 27 when two gunmen, riding a motorcycle, approached them and opened fire. The assailants fled unchallenged. The attack left the pair seriously injured. They were driven to the Civil Hospital where Kumar succumbed to his injuries. Avinash was referred to a hospital in Rahim Yar Khan District of Punjab for treatment of his critical wounds.

The local police at Ghotki claimed the attack was triggered by personal enmity and was not linked to the blasphemy incident. The teenagers were attacked around an hour after members from Hindu and Muslim communities met to discuss a blasphemy incident that took place earlier in the day and decided to maintain law and order in the area. Ghotki district was tense over allegations of the desecration of the holy book by a Hindu man, who was arrested on Tuesday July 26, 2016. Leaders of the Hindu community have demanded protection for their lives and properties following the violence.

Most of Pakistan’s Hindu minority lives in Sindh, and Ghotki has a sizeable population of the community. Sindh has traditionally been more peaceful than other provinces but the region has witnessed a spike in sectarian tensions and radicalization that has coincided with the entry of a few ridicules religious. Law enforcement agencies personnel have arrested more than 150 people on charges of rioting in overnight raids. Large police contingents have been posted in sensitive areas, particularly outside the homes of Hindus.

(iii). Christians in Fear of Killing at Chak 44 in Punjab

Christians in fear of Killing at Chak (Village) No. 44 District Mandi Bahauddin:

On Friday May 6th, 2016 at about 11:30 am Ms. Katherine Sapna Director CTS received a call from Saleem Iqbal a journalist in Lahore, over the phone call he asked CTS help to the Christians at Chak (Village) No. 44 District Mandi Bahauddin as he was in direct contact with the local Christians in the village. He informed that the extremist local Muslims planning to attack Christians by setting their houses and church on fire after the Friday prayers. They broadcasted through the Mosque loud speakers in the

adjacent villages to bring all Muslims together to kill Christians after they alleged a young Christian man named Imran Masih s/o Sharif Masih aged 24 for blasphemy.



Christians in fear of Killing at Chak (Village) No. 44 District Mandi Bahauddin

On this News Ms. Katherine Sapna made a phone call to the Station House Officer at Chak (Village) No. 44 District Mandi Bahauddin and urged him to provide High security to the Christians at the spot. Mr. Saleem Iqbal also informed that he is trying to approach Federal Minister Kamran Michael to call upon the local police to provide protection to the Christian's houses and to provide security for their life safety. Later CTS was informed that within 15 minutes 8- 10 policemen arrived at the place for the protection of Christians, which seems insufficient but they were succeeded to disperse the crowd from the Scene.

Facts of the case

On Sunday May 08, 2016 two residents of Chak 44 named Aamir Yaqoob s/o of Yaqoob Masih and Arif Masih s/o Atta Masih approached Saleem Iqbal (journalist) office in Lahore and informed that Imran Masih s/o Sharif Masih is a young Christian of 24 years. He is an employee as a Janitor at a Health Care Centre in the same locality for last couple of years and working among several Muslim colleagues. Imran is enough frank with his Muslim colleagues therefore he was invited to attend a wedding ceremony of his Muslim colleague's daughter on April 16, 2016; meantime Imran made video clips and recorded a few parts of wedding ceremony in his mobile phone. After wedding when he was again at his work on Monday April 19, 2016, he was asked to show movie clips to his colleagues. Even he handed over his cell phone to one of his colleagues. Later on Imran noticed that Mohammad Bilal, an owner of local medicine store adjacent to his workplace was holding his phone and showing online provocative lectures of

Pastor Dr. Samie Samson to other workers standing around him. When Imran asked Mohammad Bilal to return his phone he refused to give him mobile phone back. Mohammad Bilal accused Imran of watching anti-Islamic lectures of Christian Pastors on You Tube. Mohammad Bilal gave a slap on Imran's face and asked others to beat him. Imran asked his colleagues that he was not use to of watching the lectures or other things about Pastor Samie Samson and requested to let them go. After beating him severely they locked him in a room and did not allow him to go. Luckily Imran had another cell phone in his pocket, so he could call a Christian brother named Aamir Masih who is also a member of his Church Committee and informed him about the situation. Aamir Masih along with a few other Committee members met with the senior doctor of the health care centre and inquires about Imran. They solved the matter with the doctor by telling him about illiteracy of Imran and that he is unable to operate such functions on his mobile phone: so the committee members were able to rescue Imran.

A Muslim coworker Mulvi Manzoor told Imran that he should go to Mohammad Bilal and ask for forgiveness just to make the things clear. Imran was agreed and come with Manzoor to Bilal's place but he was not at his desk. Mulvi Manzoor informed Mohammad Bilal through cell phone that Imran wanted to apologize. Mohammaed Bilal became furious and he said over the telephone that he has connections with the religious scholars of Jamaat UI- Dawa in Sargodha and that the scholars have issued a fatwa (an Islamic religious ruling, a scholarly opinion) that Imran has committed Blasphemy by watching anti-Islamic lecture and has no right to life. Mulvi Manzoor become worried and he suggested Imran to escape; Imran got scared fled for safety while his family especially parents were worried about him, they inquired again and again at his work place but there was not a response. Later on Sharif Masih (Imran's father) was informed by Mulvi Manzoor about the life danger to Imran by Mohammad Bilal.

Meanwhile the news spread about the incident of blasphemy among the Muslims in the surrounding villages and that Imran Masih is liable to death. On April 29, 2016 during the Friday prayer the local Muslim clerics made announcements in the loudspeaker about the FATWA against Imran Masih and encouraged Muslim community for the social boycott of all Christian residents of Chak 44. Then it was decided that all shopkeepers will not sell anything for local Christians. A local Muslim businessman named Irshad Jhakar has announced the prize of rupees one hundred thousand (US\$ 10,000) as a reward for the killing of Imran Masih. A few local Muslims Inayat Mahajir, Mistri Bashir and Saddique Arrayian planned to attack Christians and to torch their houses and worship place. Mohammad Riaz, member of a local committee, encouraging people for the killing of Imran Masih as he is liable to death.

Muslim committee has inquired the matter with the doctors at Imran's work place. Although the doctors reported no such incident of Blasphemy took place in the health center but the Muslims continue planned an attack on Christians. Hate speeches against Christians in the mosque loudspeaker to instigating Muslims was routine. The situation became worse when Iqbal Masih asked permission on May 05 for the wedding ceremony of his daughter which was decided on May 07, 2016, But the Muslim committee did not allow Iqbal Masih to arrange wedding function of his daughter in the village as punishment. They threatened Iqbal Masih for attack on Christian's otherwise handover Imran Masih to them.

The next day on May 06, 2016 after Friday prayer Muslim clerics called upon surrounding Muslims to be gathered at Chak 44. It was alarming situation for Christians therefore one of the local Christians Aamir Masih called upon (mobile police) at 15 police helpline and informed about the tense situation in the village. According to Aamir Masih within 20 minutes eight (8) to ten (10) policemen reached the spot and dispersed the mob. In few minutes Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) was on the place among the police squad. DSP recorded statements of the Muslim Committee Members. After one day police left the place as they feel that there was no issue.

Aamir Masih and Arif Masih reported that the locals are not satisfied with the attitude of police as they did not recorded statements of Christian residents and without knowing their situation they did not take responsibility to provide security to the Christians for that reason the Christians have fled for safety; there are a few living in fearful situation. Due to the social boycott they have nothing to eat. There are only 45 families living among the Muslim masses.

Christians' True Spirit – CTS urge the Punjab Government and the Federal Government to take a serious notice of the situation of Christians at Chak 44 District Mandi Bahauddin. The Government should ensure the security of Imran Masih and his family and other Christians at Chak 44 otherwise provide them alternative safe places. Imran (victim of blasphemy) and his family is in contact with CTS and requested for possible help for protection and safety. CTS willing to take responsibility to provide safe accommodation to this distressed family at its sanctuary house.

Update Report:

The Christian residents of Mandi Bahauddin forced to leave village or convert in to Islam

On May 16, 2016 Amir Yaqoob aged 38 son of Yaqoob Masih resident Chak 44, Mandi Bahauddin and Mr. Saleem Iqbal (journalist based Lahore) visited the office of the Christians' True Spirit (CTS) and appreciate for helping Christian residents of the said

village. The situation turned into violent when a Christian namely Imran Masih aged 24 son of Sharif Masih blamed for blasphemy and the local fanatic Muslims (extremists) planned to burn the houses and belongings to the Christians. The district administration along with local politicians got involved and resolved the matter adequately. The Muslim villagers were very much annoyed for Imran Masih and demanded blasphemy case FIR against him and his immediate arrest. On the other side the District Police Officer (DPO) asked Muslims for reconciliation with Christians and also declared Imran Masih as an innocent as he did not commit any blasphemy. The Muslims and the Christians are residing in the village for last many years and have cordial relations. Chak 44 is a big village and 2000 families are Muslims while 45 families are Christians.



According to details Imran Masih, is an employee and working as ward boy at the village hospital owned by the district government. Imran Masih was blamed for having a blasphemous video on his cell phone and the actual position cleared by the police that the blasphemous video was tagged on the whatsapp account of Imran Masih and he never ever download from the web. The matter was taken-up in the village by a local Muslim Landlord, who already has grudge against Imran Masih. He wanted to teach Imran Masih a lesson and wanted to implicate him in blasphemy cases. Following the worst situation of area Muslim residents he escaped from the scene and hiding.

According to Amir Yaqoob, “The situation in the village is calm but Christian residents of the area are terrified and the Muslim shopkeepers in the village denied giving grocery and other eatables. Even the Christians cannot work openly and usually deprived from jobs as well. They are failed to earn money to feed their children. The Muslim villagers demanded that Imran Masih embrace Islam or in case of refusal he must leave the village. Secondly all Christian villagers must embrace Islam. The conditions made by the Muslim villagers for Christian residents were very much rigid and unacceptable.”

10)-STATE OF BLASPHEMY

(1). An overview on Blasphemy Laws in Pakistan

The Blasphemy law is a part of the Pakistan Penal Code, which was introduced in 1860 by the British Government to protect religious feelings. It may be observed that Section 295 provides protection to worship places of all classes of religions living in the subcontinent. It does not contain element of discrimination or preference to any class. It maintains equality of all before the law. The law appears to maintain mutual harmony and peace as well as to promote sense of mutual tolerance, understanding and respect in the multifaceted society of the subcontinent. This section represents the typical example of a secular democratic law for benefit of all and loss to none.

Section 295:

Injuring or defiling place or worship, with intent to insult the religion of any class. Whoever, destroys, damages or defiles any place of worship, or any object held sacred by any class of persons with the intention of thereby insulting the religion of any class of persons or with the knowledge that any class of persons is likely to consider such destruction, damage or defilement as an insult to their religion, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extent to two years, or with fine or with both.

Section 295-A:

In 1927 when religious riots rocked pre-partition India, 295-A was promulgated: Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs. Whoever, with deliberate and malicious intention of outrage the religious feelings, or any class of the citizens of Pakistan, by words, either spoken or written or by visible representations, insult or attempts to insult the religion or the religious beliefs of that class, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, or with fine, or both.

Section 295-B:

This law was amended further in 1982 as 295-B, defiling the Holy Qur'an, was added by Presidential Ordinance 1: Defiling the copy of Holy Qur'an. Whoever willfully defiles damages or desecrates a copy of the Holy Qur'an or of an extract there from or uses it in any derogatory manner for any unlawful purpose shall be punishable with imprisonment for life. It stipulates life imprisonment for an offender who **willfully** defiles a copy or portion of the Holy Qur'an. It may be observed at the very outset that the law

provides protection to the Holy Scripture of only one class of the country. The sentence of life under this section is not an expression of administering justice but rather a tempting tool in the hands of the Muslim extremists to hold the members of the religious minorities in religious-cum judicial blackmail for personal vendettas.

Section 295-C:

That did not satisfy the extremists; they pressurized General Zia-ul-Haq to add 295-C through Criminal Law (amended) Act III of 1986, the Blasphemy against the Holy Prophet. However, it was further amended by the judgment of the Federal Shariat Court making the death penalty mandatory on conviction for the offence of desecrating the name of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Not only that, but for the first time religious qualification was added to the PPC, so that only a Muslim Judge may hear the case under this section of the law (Section 295-C).

This is read as:

295-C: use of derogatory remarks etc., in respect of the Holy Prophet: – who ever by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation, or by any imputation innuendo, or insinuation, directly, defiles the sacred name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) shall be punished with death, or imprisonment for life and shall also be liable for fine.

The law stipulated death penalty or life imprisonment for defiling the name of the prophet of Islam. The Federal Shariat Court of Pakistan while adjudicating on a case in 1991 struck down the option of life imprisonment and made the death penalty obligatory, along with a fine usually very high. The other noteworthy aspect of this section is the absence of the expression **willfully or intentionally** in the text of the law. Disregard of the element of will or intention in the law makes the whole environment suspicious for the reason that “will” or “intention” is an essential part of human behaviour in the context of identifying a criminal offence. Thus under section 295-C, a person committing offence without “will” or “intention” is awarded death sentence at par with the one committing it “willfully” or “intentionally”. We can see that law is required to punish the “unintentional” offence on the same scale as in the case of “intentional” one, without any justification.

These laws seem to protect the embodiments of faith of only one community in a multi faith society, whereas that community is already in majority and ruling class of the country. On the contrary these laws provide no protection to members of other religions and hence they are discriminatory. They are used against the members of other religious communities including Christians, Ahmadis, and Hindus and even against

Muslims who have some differences with main sects. It is even being interpreted by extremists as 'blasphemous' to claim that it is not necessary for a man to grow his facial hair long in Islam!

Christians are the main targets by the fundamentalist and religious political parties. The law is being used for forced conversion, forcibly taking over the lands and business of Christians, hindering the preaching of Christian faith and for settling personal scores, rivalries and vengeance. Nevertheless, these laws have proved to be the most injurious weapon of active religious persecution by the extremists with encouragement from the government.

Muslims on the other hand also face these problems but only those who are being declared as non-Muslims by the majority known as Sunni. The other sects of Muslims who are declared as non-Muslims are Ahmedis, Shias, Bahais, Zakris, etc. and they also face problem from the majority. They are also accused and charged with blasphemy to settle personal disputes.

Many innocent persons have been falsely accused under these laws and the number is still on the rise. Victims are severely manhandled and even murdered by mobs and individuals; their families go in hiding. They have to leave their home or even their homeland and their dear ones accept exile to save their lives. Their worship places, houses and localities are attacked, burned and destroyed. Those accused have to undergo fierce media trial. Throughout the process of arrest, investigation and trial anyone showing sympathy with the accused is liable to harassment and allegations being made against them of acting in a non-Islamic way. Police are pressurized and blackmailed. Judges are threatened, harassed and have even been killed. Even if the accused is acquitted, they are still hunted and killed by extremists. There are still many in the jails waiting for fair trial.

(ii). An incident of Desecration of Holy Quran in Ali Pur Chattha

The Information

On August 9, 2016 Rev. Fr. Mushtaq Piyara approached CTS office and informed about an incident of desecration of Holy Quran, whereas three Christians were falsely alleged for desecration of Holy Quran and committing blasphemy. He also informed about the tense situation of the local Christians after a big protest demonstration staged by the angry Muslims. Afterwards the three Christians were arrested by the police and shifted at unknown location for secret investigation.

Ali Pur Chattah is a small city situated 37 kilometer away from District Gujranwala and is part of Tehsil Wazirabad (small administrative division). Ali Pur Chattah is 24 kilometer in North from Hafizabad and 6 kilometer in South from Rasulnagar and Chenab River.

Meeting with aggrieved family and background of alleged accused Christians



The CTS Team visited the victim family

The CTS team visited the families of alleged accused persons and the wife of accused Yousaf Masih aged 60 and mother of Adeel Masih aged 28 and Anwar Masih aged 45 as her relative. According to wife of Yousaf Masih, her husband is employing at Government High School Ali Pur Chattha since last 25 years and her younger son Adeel Masih employed three years before in the school. Both are working as gardener in the school and for the honesty and commitment of

Yousaf Masih towards his duties the school management like them very much. While Anwar Masih works as peon in the school and is punctual in his duties.

The Incident

The school is observing summer holidays and on August 9, 2016 at about 10:00am as routine Yousaf Masih along with Adeel Masih and Anwar Masih was collecting fallen leaves, grass, trashes and other waste material for the purpose to clean the school premises. After collection, they put the whole litter in a small iron trolley in order to throw down outside school. As usual they throw down thrashes near the school wall and garbage vans from the municipality committee gathered and took outside the city. A Girl's high school located opposite boy's high school and on the same road a Women College is also located and all three educational institutions throws down their school garbage at the same place, which is very much near to government boy's high school.

While the Christians employees throwing down thrashes and noticed same types of thrashes set there already. While they just trying to throw down thrash all of sudden some people heading by Shafiq Dar came and started shouting for desecration of the pages of Holy Quran and blamed three Christians, the school headmaster and a Muslim employee of the same school for the alleged occurrence. Shafiq Dar and others made

their every effort to behaved highhanded manners but in the meanwhile other school staffers also gathered and rescued their fellows from the clutches of protesters. After knowing about the incident the school headmaster also reached at the place of occurrence and informed the police.



The school where Christians working as janitor

The police reached on the spot immediately and controlled the situation and later Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Wazirabad Circle also joined the police party. The protesters staged protest demonstration and blocked the city road for several hours and chanted slogan against the alleged accused

persons. The protesters demanded registration of blasphemy case FIR and immediate arrest of three Christians, school headmaster and the Muslim employee. The police keeping in view the sensitivity and safety of the alleged accused persons arrested three Christians and the Muslim employee and took them to the police station and later shifted them at the office of DSP, Tehsil Wazirabad.

Police Investigation

The DSP Circle Wazirabad appointed an experienced police officer for the investigation of this case who collects all evidences, case property and statements of concerned persons linked with this case. After investigation the DSP declared the three Christians, headmaster and other school employee innocent and registered a case FIR offence under section 295-B PPC carrying occurrence of desecration of Holy Quran against unknown persons. Later after formal police procedure Yousaf Masih, Adeel Masih, Anwar Masih and the Muslim employee were released and the school headmaster was also cleared from allegations of desecration of Holy Quran.

(ii). Naseer Yousaf and Nisar Yousaf (Rawalpindi)

The Christians' True Spirit (CTS) received information regarding a blasphemy case in Rawalpindi City adjacent to Islamabad (capital of Pakistan). The sources informed that two Christian brothers Naseer Yousaf and Nisar Yousaf resident of Westridge Bazar Rawalpindi falsely accused of blasphemy in December 2015 by their Muslim tenant who tried to occupy the residential property of Yousaf brothers. The family is under immense pressure; their lives have become imperiled due to the wrath of inflamed fanatics.

The Christian Family

The family was well established and has repute in the locality and is owner of big piece of land. The said property belongs to their forefathers who lived since decades and Yousaf brothers are residing at the same place. They said that they are nineteen members in the family including four brothers, their wives, children and their old mother. Their two brothers namely Shahzad Yousaf and Nisar Yousaf were doing the business of real-estate and have land and other proprieties for sale and purchase. They owned a big property in locality, a triple story building with separate portions and which they rented to the Muslims tenants/renters.

Reasons behind the alleged incident of desecration

The downfall of the family started when one of their tenants Muhammad Jalal Bhatti father of eight sons started creating hurdles and problems. The area residents were also very much annoyed with the family of Muhammad Jalal and complained to the owners to expel them from tenancy. The Christian brothers requested him time to time to vacate the place but he always made lame excuses. After some time the tenant Muhammad Jalal and his son Muhammad Azeem prepared fake ownership papers and refused to vacate. The two brothers filed a suit before the court and the case decided in favor of Christian brothers and against the tenant. Even after the court decision they were not ready to vacate. Later a court bailiff helped to get the possession back and all belongings of tenant Muhammad Jalal were put outside and on the road. The tenant family started living in front of their house and in a tent and constantly threatened the Christian brothers and demanded to leave the house otherwise ready for consequences. On 16 December 2015 the Christian brothers brought the matter before the area police station and requested for security and protection but the police did not take the matter serious and never called Muhammad Jalal and his sons for settlement or any other legal proceedings.

Complainant filed an application for the registration of blasphemy case FIR

On the same evening 16 December 2015 Muhammad Azeem approached the area police station and filed an application for registration blasphemy case FIR against the Christian brothers and blamed that the two brothers throw the copy of Holy Quran in the drainage at the time when the court bailiff vacate the house. The news spread in the area like fire in the jungle but the area police controlled the law and order situation timely and convey for not take law into their hands and calm. On the next day 17 December 2015 the inquiry was called by the high rank police officer and it was decided to meet on 18 December 2018 and constitute 14 members inquiry committee look at the matter.

Registration of false criminal case FIR against Yousaf brothers

The complainant of application Muhammad Azeem before the inquiry convinced Sharoon Javed for registration a fake case against Shahzad Raza, Yousaf and their cousin Sheraz Peter. According to plan Muhammad Azeem joined hands with the police and on the complaint of Sharoon Javed registered a case FIR No. 426/15 offence under section 452 & 506 of PPC at police station Westridge. The complainant of this FIR Sharoon Javed blamed the accused Shahzad Raza, Sheraz Peter and Yousaf illegally trespass his house, beat him harshly and threatened for life and warned him for dire consequences. The police arrested Shahazad Raza and Sheraz Peter and sent them in the jail. After the inquiry committee the police found the case of Sharoon Javed which registered with malicious attention and submitted police report before the area magistrate and declared them as innocent. After this report the magistrate released Shahzad Raza and Sheraz Peter and quashed the case FIR No. 426/15.

Police inquiry and recording of statements

On 18 December 2015 the court bailiff and committee members recorded their statements before the inquiry committee and declared the Christian brothers as innocent. During the inquiry committee proceedings Yousaf Masih informed about the fake case against his son and a relative. After the high level investigation of the police and it was clearly revealed on the police that complainant Muhammad Azeem Bhatti implicated the two brothers after when he was not ready to vacate the house of two brothers and the two brothers succeeded to get back the possession of their house through court bailiff. The tenant Muhammad Azeem was very much annoyed and falsely spread the news of desecration of Holy Quran and in this way instigates and involved area people for attack on Christian family. His only purpose was to grab the property of Christian brothers. The police investigation team recommended for not to register blasphemy case against the Christian brothers and declared them as innocent. In this

way the allegations found baseless and case proceedings finished at the Westridge Police Station. The other high rank officers were District Police Officer (DPO), Senior Police Officer (SP) and District Superintendent of Police (DSP). Later the inquiry committee disposed off the baseless application of Muhammad Azeem.

Christian Family under attacked after alleged blasphemy accusations

After the police inquiry, the police and Christian brothers assumed that the matter has been resolved and after few days of inquiry on 01 January 2016 Muhammad Azeem accompanying his brothers and along with five unknown criminal assailants fully equipped with deadly weapons attacked the Christian family and started beating and forcedly kicked out them from their house and got possession. The area residents rescued the Christian family and the attackers warned them for life and inform them to stay away. Naseer Yousaf reported the matter in the Westridge Police Station and requested for the family protection, but police remained non-serious to take legal action against the culprits. Yousaf brothers became afraid of their lives and families; and decided to leave the place for a while.

On January 25, 2015 Kathreen Yousaf aged 65 widow of Yousaf Masih, again attacked by the Muslim tenants as she visited her house in order to get some clothes for their children. Yousaf brothers supposed that opponents will not harm an old lady, but they started pelted stones and beat her with wooden sticks and wanted kill. Someone immediately informed police and a few neighbors resisted the aggressive Muslims; meanwhile police reached the spot and rescued Katherine Bibi. She suffered through sever pain due to beating and asked her sons do not go to their place again as she is frightened for the security of her sons. The family is sacred of life safety and future of their children. Since five months Yousaf family has changed several places to hide themselves and their children from the angry Muslims. The fanatics, through their networks following the movement of the family and threatening to kill their innocent children and were forced to migrate to different places. As they have already attacked the family twice.

The fear of death has made the life unpleasant and the Christian brothers are unable to work. The real estate business and house rent was the main income source of the family. In this way they lost whole of their business and reputes etc.

The moment the Christian family face serious financial problem and not able to sent their children into school. The family has requested CTS for permanent protection and safety. The CTS helped the family within limited resources and the family consisting 19 members. Till the filling of this report the family is still unable to get the possession back of their own house.

(iv). Blasphemy Case against Nadeem James



Sadly informed that a blasphemy case has been registered in the police station of Sarai-Alamgir a Town of District Gujrat Punjab, Pakistan about 161 Km from Lahore, against Nadeem James a Christian young man on July 10, 2016.

He was alleged to send blasphemous text messages through Whats'app. Soon after the allegation he fled for safety as the Muslim mob gathered in the locality to punish Nadeem James at the spot. The mob demanded the arrest of accused as soon as possible and pressurized the local police to get register a case FIR under blasphemy laws otherwise they will attack the family of accused and neighbor Christians.

The situation got atrocious and the local Christians especially children became fearful of the situation. Because of the pressure Police arrested Najma Faryad and Samreen Shahbaz (two sisters of Nadeem James) to calm down the mob. Timely provided support by the Christian NGO's and politicians, especially Shahzad Munshi present MPA PMLN who used influence and warned the local police about the situation and asked an immediate security force for the innocent Christians as Sarai Alamgir.

Katherine Sapna Director CTS from Lahore and Asher Sarfraz Chief Executive CTS from Germany made phone calls to Mr. Rai Zameer Ul Haq District Police Officer (DPO) Gujrat and The Station House Officer of the local police station concerning the stressed situation of Christians at the spot and urged to depute high security to the location for Christians safety from any forecast harm.

Ms. Katherine Sapna also demanded the release of Najma Feryad and Samreen Shahbaz as they were innocent and nothing to do with the said case. The SHO assured CTS about the wellbeing of the girls, as they get arrested to take to a secure place as they were on the target of the Muslim mob for killing. DPO was on spot himself and a heavy police was deputed. Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) arrived at the spot along with police to provide security to the local Church and church premises to save

from the angry mob. An immediate notice of DPO over the tense situation at Sarai Alamgir and on time provided security has controlled the Muslim mob to attack local Christians as well as the Church within hours the fearful situation was in command of the DPO and DSP at the moment.

CTS highly grateful to the police authorities for taking the on time action for the safety of Christians in Sarai Alamgir, Gujrat and appreciate the services. CTS also grateful to the Christian individuals and especially Christian political for building pressure and asking boldly for the emergency security provide to the Christians. It is confirmed that the case FIR has been registered against Nadeem James and announced at the Public at Large but the high authorities has banned issuing the copy for the moment and also avoid to disclose the sections which has been added in the registered FIR.

CTS team is in collaboration with other Christian friends concerning the case and in continues contact with the local authorities to monitor the situation of Christians at Sarai Alamgir.

(v). Ruqqiya Bibi & Munir Masih



File photo of victim Ruqqiya Bibi

Ruqqiya Bibi and her husband Munir Masih parents of Sonia aged 20, Amna aged 18, Ameer aged 10, Akash aged 09, Muqadass aged 05 and Shabir aged 02 residents of District Kasur. The couple labored to earn their daily bread. The allegations arose after a minor quarrel took place between the children, as the son of complainant beat the daughter of Ruqqiya and the younger son Ameer quarreled for her sister. Later the matter was in the families and a big quarrel happened among the elder in

which the Muslim party inhumanly beat Ruqqiya, Munir and their children and all sustained severe injuries and the Christian couple approached the area police station and filed an application for the registration of case FIR. Afterwards a criminal case FIR registered against Muhamamd Ilyas and the police arrested and sent him in the jail. Later, he got after arrest bail and started threatening and warned them for dire consequences. In the month of December 2008, their neighbor Muhammad Ilyas allegedly blamed them for desecration of Holy Quran and a case FIR 607/2008 offence under section 295-B PPC (Pakistan Penal Code) registered at the police station

Mustafabad, Kasur. Another local resident named Muhammad Nawaz involved in the case FIR as witness from the complainant side.

Both were arrested and on January 22, 2009 Munir Masih and Ruqqiya Bibi got bails from the Session Judge Kasur and the couple observed many Muslim clerics gathered outside and pressurized the learned Session Judge. The complainant party also filed an application for addition of another section 295-C PPC in the case FIR but remained unsuccessful as the judge dismissed the application of complainant party. The case trial after pressure from the religious elements convicted the couple under section 295-B PPC and sentenced them for life imprisonment. The appeal against trial court order filed before the Lahore High Court and finally Ruqqiya Bibi and Munir Masih acquitted from the charge and released on May 17, 2012.

After their release they were not allowed to stay in the same locality and in this way the family also lost their house. They were also under threat of life and living as hiding in miserable condition. Last year in the month of January 2016 Munir met with an accident and his three ribs were fractured and he was admitted in a government hospital where he was discharged after first aid treatment etc and Ruqqiya Bibi was not in position to take him to a private hospital for appropriate medical treatment. On the other side the health of Munir Masih going down speedily and finally on March 30, 2016 he died. Ruqqiya Bibi approached CTS for financial help, and the CTS assist her accordingly.

(v). Javed Naz and two others victim of blasphemy, Gujranwala-Punjab



Irshad Javed wife of victim Javed Naz

Irshad Javed w/o Javed Naz aged 50 visited CTS office on Friday October 28, 2016 and requested for help in a blasphemy case registered against her husband. Irshad informed CTS director, Katherine Sapna that her husband Javed Naz s/o Bhakhsha

Masih aged 52 years resident of Street no. 2, Mohallah Tariq Abad, Chand Da Qilla Line Par, Gujranwala was accused of blasphemy among two others Anjum Naz and Jaffar Ali, got arrested on 15 May 2015 by the local police of Satellite Town, District Gujranwala in the case FIR no. 395/15 Offence Under Section 386, 295 – C PPC, 6/7 A T A , 1997 on 15– 05 – 2015 on the complaint of Basharat Ahmad Inspector (SHO).

Javed Naz was a school teacher in a private High School in Gujranwala, he along with Anjum Naz (another School teacher) and Jaffar Ali were blamed to record blasphemous text and later they started using the same for extortion of money from each other. A formal charge was framed by the court against the accused on 29-08-2015 and the case trial started in the Anti Terrorist Court –II Gujranwala.

In June 2016 the all three accused were sentenced to death for committing blasphemy and they were shifted from Gujranwala to Faisalabad Prison. Javed Naz, Anjum Naz and Jaffar Ali has been filed a case appeal in the High Court against the death sentence and waiting for the hearing like other blasphemy victims.

Irshad Javed informed CTS that she is struggling alone and fighting the case since one year and now she is helpless even to support her children. Since Javed Naz was arrested by the police the family could not stay at their home and fled for their life safety. They live hide as the militants with green turban started watching the family and also planned to burn them inside the house, said Irshad Javed.

She has three children a daughter named Saniya Javed aged 21 student FSC, Son, Zeshan Javed aged 20 student of 1st year and Simran Javed aged 11 student of 9th grade. All thee has stop going school as they cannot afford education expenses. Living at relatives the family disturbed as they do not get support from relatives. Depressed Irshad Javed requested prayers, family assistance as well as legal support in the legal case of blasphemy against her husband.

11)-MUSLIM EXTREMISTS SET THE HOLY BIBLE ON FIRE



Photo of burnt Bible

Christians' True Spirit (CTS) got informed through reliable resources that a Muslim set fire to the Holy Bible, on May 24, Tuesday, in Chandiyān Talawān, in District Faisalābad, Punjab (some kilometers far from Chak 44 Mandi Bahāuddine, a place where Christians already facing life threats and live in fear of attack by the Muslim extremists since

they allegedly accused a Christian youth Imran Masih aged 24 for committing blasphemy). The incident exasperated the local Christians who staged a protest against the desecration of the Holy Bible. Seeing the situation getting worse, police contingents were deployed in the area in order to ward off violent clash between the Christians and Muslims. The local Christians claimed that the alleged perpetrator had profaned the Word of God by setting fire to it.

The incident aggravated the Christians who started chanting slogans against the perpetrator demanding due punishment to the guilty party over the blasphemous act.

Katherine Sapna Director Christians' True Spirit – CTS strongly condemned the act and demanded the perpetrator be met with due punishment. As the situation for the religious minorities becoming deteriorating day by day and we suppose this another way to pressurize Christian villagers and threaten them by creating hostile situation in the village. We cannot ignore such issues which create hatred, maltreatment, religious extremism and intolerance in our society.

Since 9/11 and Cartoon published by a journalist in Denmark there has been sectarian conflict of varying intensity in Pakistan. This religious sectarianism is connected to a degree with nationalism. Religious minorities, Christians in particular are being overwhelmingly threatened by the Muslim extremists as the country sits pretty in the thick of bigotry. Pakistan is recently named amongst the worst violators of religious freedom.

CTS team investigating the matter and collecting facts behind this hostile situation at village Chandiyān Talawān, Faisalābad and will keep you informed accordingly.

12)-FACT FINDING REPORTS

(i). Nabeel Akhtar (Murder Case)



The aggrieved family narrating facts about murder case

Nabeel Akhtar aged 24 son of James Masih, a Christian by faith and resident of small village Ghagha Mitter, District Gujranwala, Punjab. There are three more siblings in the family and the poor parents were unable to send them school. Deceased Nabeel was working as driver and driving a tractor in the agriculture fields of Mehar Aslam, the landlord in the village and against whole his services and duties

were paid very less. Nabeel requested the landlord again and again for increase in his salary but in vain. During this work he was offered another job as driver with a telecom franchise in the city. Nabeel shared about the job with the landlord and about the happy earning and quality of work. Upon this the landlord annoyed with Nabeel and forced him to work in the agriculture fields.

Here in Pakistan the month of April is a season to cut wheat crops and the landlord forced Nabeel to work for him and Nabeel was an expert to cut with the thrasher machine etc. On the other side the deceased Nabeel demanded the landlord for appropriate salary against this work. The landlord was not happy with Nabeel and finally promised with him if he could start work, his demand for increase of pay will be considered soon. Nabeel was very much known to land lord and refused to join the work. On 23 April 2015 Nabeel was called by the landlord through his neighbors Kashif Masih and Iftikhar Masih in order to settle the matter. Deceased Nabeel accompanying with them and after sometime his family was informed that Nabeel got an accident with the tractor and is in critical condition. Following the matter his elder brother Khalil Akhtar reached the agriculture field and found his brother under the heavy tractor and in critical condition and in the same fields where he was called for meeting with the landlord. The landlord and his employees pretended the incident as accident. Nabeel was seriously injured and wants to share about what happened to him but due to severe injuries was unable and only straight his finger towards the landlord and his employees. Nabeel was

not taken to the hospital in time as his brother Khalil Akhtar shouted for ambulance but nobody helped and Nabeel did not tolerate the strained of injuries and died.

Afterwards, Khalil Akhter, the elder brother of deceased Nabeel approached the area police station for the registration of murder case against the land lord and his employees for the murder of his younger brother Nabeel. The police was influenced by the landlord and refused to register the case FIR against the landlord and his employees.



Ms. Katherine Sapna with the aggrieved family

On April 26, 2015 Khalil Akhtar approached CTS's Mr. Sarfraz Coordinator District Gujranwala and requested for help for the registration of murdered case against the responsible. Later the CTS team comprising Katherine Sapna Director, Nomee Karamat District Coordinator Lahore, Qaiser Yousaf Field Staff, Suneel Karamat

Field Staff and Mr. Sarfraz Coordinator District visited the place of occurrence but could not meet the family and found the family has left the village after constant threats of life made by the landlord and his companions. Later the CTS team visited the family at undisclosed location and gathered the information related with the sudden death of Nabeel Masih.

Khalil Akhter informed the CTS team and shared that his deceased brother Nabeel Masih pointed out the names of Ali Murtaza s/o Mehar Ahsan, Kashif Masih, Iftakhar Masih, and two other unknown persons. He also informed the team about the sign of torture on the body of deceased Nabeel. Khalil Akhter further informed the CTS team about the serious threats of life by the above said accused persons who categorically has admitted the murder of Nabeel Masih and warned the family to stay away from registration of case and police proceedings. Khalil also added about manhandling by the accused persons with the women family members. Khalil brought the matter before the

elders of the village but nobody was dared to involve in the matter as the accused persons are influential in the area.

The CTS team visited the are police station and after consultation the police registered a case FIR No. 138/2015 offence under section 302, 149 & 148 of Pakistan Penal Code at the police station Sawahrda Wazirabad, District Gujranwala. After the registration of case the landlord threatened the villagers for not to become witness in this case and if any villager became party in the case will be responsible for the consequences. On the other side the police and not taking much interest and there was no investigation conducted in the case so far. Keeping in view the sensitivity the family is disappointed about the conduct of police in this murder case.

The family requested CTS for protection and shelter for a limited time period and finally the case FIR was quashed by the Senior Superintendent of Police, who inquired the matter in his own supervision and found nothing sufficient in support or evidence of allegations and released them from the murder charge.

(ii). Murder of a Christian at Dogar Bricks Company Bhai Pharo Kasur



The CTS team while visiting brick kiln Kasur

The CTS Director Ms. Katherine Sapna was informed thorough sources about the murder of a newly converted Bashart Masih, who converted from Islam to Christianity. He was resident of village located nearby Dogar Bricks Company, Bhai Pheru, District Kasur. Following the murder news the CTS team comprising Ms.

Katherine Sapna
Advocate Nadeem

Anthony, Sunil Karamat and Qaiser Yousaf visited the place of occurrence and meeting with area residents. The team found many suspicious circumstances behind this murder and getting difficulty to establish the real facts at the back of the incident.

Some more photos of the fact-finding



13)- Christmas Gifts Distributions to Sunday Schools
December, 2016

Introduction

Christmas celebrations were celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas day is seems to be filled with cheer and it always woks in spreading Christmas spirit to those around us. Do generous act is in the spirit of spreading joy, kindness and love during the Christmas season. Giving gifts among disadvantage and deserving people make you more blessed and happy through the season. To keep this tradition Christians' True Spirit as previously been also organized to distribute small token of love among Sunday school students in disadvantages areas.

Christians' True Spirit is running nine (09) in numbers at brick kilns and in small villages. CTS is also providing stationary and Sunday school syllabus books for the Sunday school children to do activities in written form too as well as for coloring Bible story books.

Details are as below;

Total Quantity of Sunday school Students (467 Students)

Sr no-	Places	Girls	Boys
1-	Youhanabad	10	7
2-	Eesa Nagari	20	20
3-	Shad School	40	37
4-	Manga Mandi	23	22
5-	Gulshan Ravi	06	15
Kasur district			
6-	Naya Pind Rao Khan	50	61
7-	Bonga/Sekham	27	42
8-	Meer sb Kot Radha Kishan	18	18
9-	Basti Eesa Nagar Brick of Waseem	18	36
	Total	212	258
	Sub Total	470	

Age Group of Sunday Schools:

CTS Sunday schools provide a basic systematic study of the scriptures at a level of understanding for different age groups. Sunday school allows an opportunity for its members to talk and share about their needs with others in similar life situations. Sunday school provides an opportunity for personal application of the scriptures based on the age level of the class. Sunday school provides for fellowship and a sense of belonging for each member of the class. Sunday school provides a platform for people to serve the Lord through teaching and administration. Sunday school is a training ground for young Christians to be more productive in their church and gives them the opportunity to develop their gifts, skills, and talents for the Lord. CTS do believe that Sunday school is the essential training and care to confirm them in Christ and transforms the younger generation for Christ. After all, they will one day be the leaders of the church.

Age 3-5	Age 6-10	Age 11-15
108	275	85

Christians' True Spirit dedicated the season to the disadvantage and poor kids at brick kilns and villages and celebrated the Christmas joy with them and presenting also small gifts to all 470 kids mentioned above from different Sunday schools of brick kilns and villages.

The Sunday school children enjoyed the events and fully participated by doing Christmas tableaux, skits and as well as by singing Carols. Kids were excited for small gifts and were expressing their joy with dancing feet.

CTS team also cut the Christmas cake with Brick kiln children.

Executing Team:

The Christmas programs were executed at brick kiln factories and in villages by CTS team members mentioned here below;

Sr. No	Team Member	Designation
1	Mr. Salamat Gill	District Coordinator Kasur, Lahore
2	Ms. Asifa Sadaf	Office Assistant
3	Mr. Suneel Karamat	Field Officer
4	Ms. Mehwish Shoukat	Sunday School In charge
5	Ms. Rama Qaiser	

Clicks of Christmas Celebrations with Sunday school kids at Brick Kiln factories and small villages











14)-CTS'S INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES ON WHY THE WORLD IS SILENT OVER THE CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

**Exhibition on Voices of Pakistani Christians
St. Bonifaz Church, Mainz Germany, August - September 2016**

Introduction

The Christians' True Spirit Germany on the grave concerns of partners from interdenominational group of different congregations belonging to (ordinary) church members, deacons, ministers from catholic, evangelical (Lutheran and Reformed) congregations and from free churches in Goettingen, over the state of Christian Persecution in Pakistan organized an exhibition from 26 August to 24 September 2016 at St. Bonifaz Church, Mainz Germany.

In this connection Mr. Asher Sarfraz (Chief Executive CTS), Dr. Anette Graff (Member CTS Germany), Mr. Burkhard Schtmitz (Coordinator CTS Germany) and Ms. Katherine Sapna (Director CTS Pakistan and team made it possible to stage such kind of exhibition in order to aware the German church and



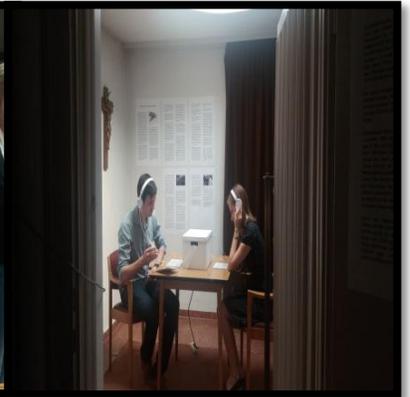
Pamphlet distributed during the exhibition

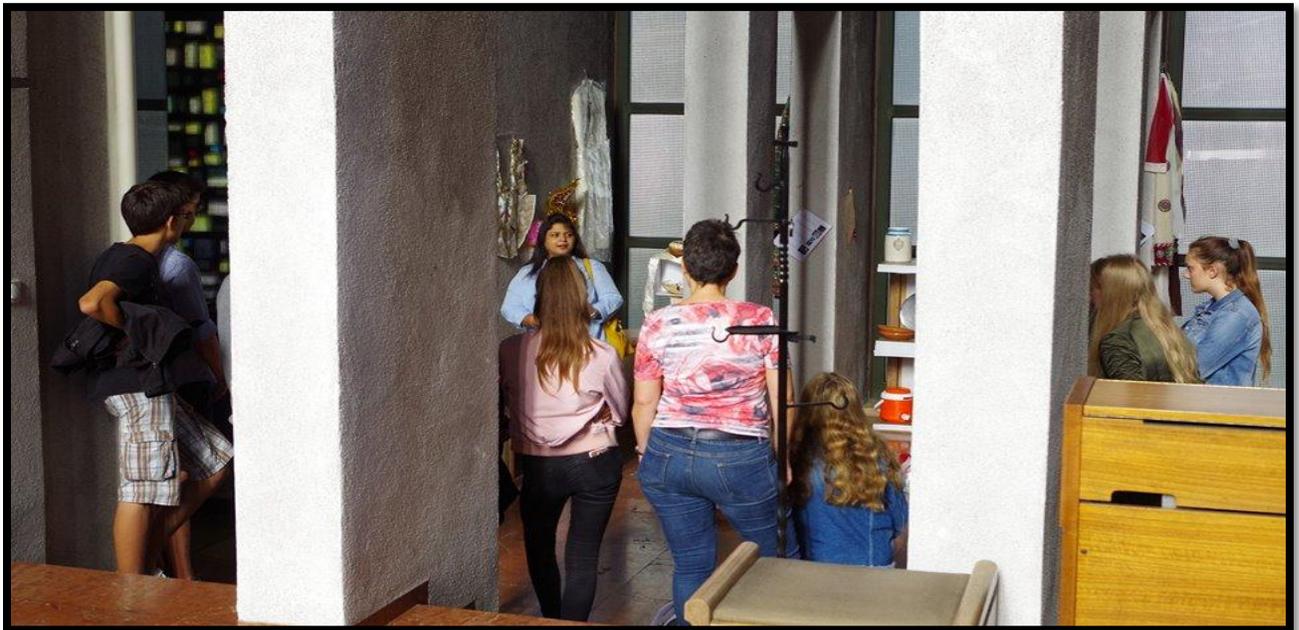
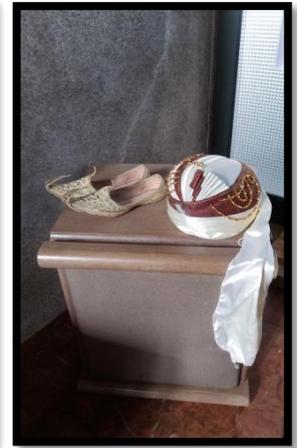


Mr. Asher Sarfraz, Dr. Anette Graff and Mr. Burkhard Schtmitz

public awareness over Christian persecution in Pakistan. Special thanks to Rev. Fr. Laurentius Hohn OP (Parish Priest St. Bonifaz Church) for his generosity to offer his Church for this exhibition as well as took well care of audience and the CTS team. After a few meetings, and discussions over the issue the German group of Churches agreeing to support the Christians' True Spirit – CTS in high lighting the situation of persecuted church in Pakistan. The exhibition highlight dilemma of Christian persecution under the theme of “Why the world is silent over the Christian Persecution”. The exhibition well witnessed by 800 hundred audience including individuals, primary school children, teachers, religious, university students and all walks of life.

A following pictorial view of some activities during the exhibition:



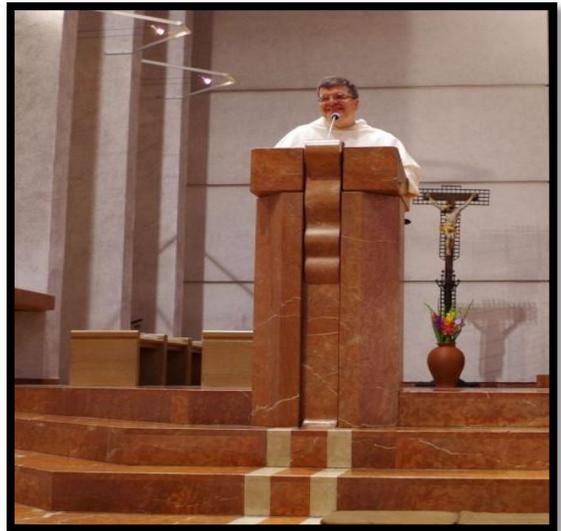


Most important event during the exhibition

The exhibition was linked with an eve of “Nacht der Kirchen” (Night of Churches), ritually celebrate on 09, September 2016 in all over Germany. Prayer gathering assembled at St. Bonifaz Church, the worshipers recited prayers for Christian brethren in Pakistan.

Rev. Fr. Laurentius Hohn OP (Parish Priest St. Bonifaz Church Mainz)

Fr. Laurentius Hohn OP in his opening expressed grief concerns on the present situation of Christians in Pakistan. He stated that the Christian persecution over the world is a stark reality and the Christians are being targeted only because of faith. He further said that the Christians are facing injustice and suffering in Asian countries like Egypt, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan: they are victims of mob violence, forced removals and also facing social, political and economic discrimination. They are being killed, targeted, having their homes and churches confiscate or destroyed and being forced to flee for their lives and today are being subject to horrific religious persecution.



Rev. Fr. Laurentius Hohn OP addressing to worshippers

Ms. Ute Granold (Politician and City Mayor)



Ms. Ute Granold expressing concerns over Christian Persecution

Ms. Ute Granold is a famous politician belongs to the Christian Democratic Union a political Party in Germany. She is a former member of the German Bundestag and she has also served as chairwoman of the Parliamentary Group in the committee on human rights and humanitarian Aid. Ute Granold is a lawyer by profession and part of the working groups of Christian Democratic Lawyers since 1990. Garnold is City Mayor of Mainz and talked about her own interaction with the Christian persecution and condemned the non- state

actors for their coward attacks against innocent Christians in Pakistan. She appreciated the work of CTS and assured her full support and offered her volunteer services for the Christian asylum seekers in Germany.

Ms. Katherine Sapna (Director CTS)



Ms. Katherine while addressing to the audience

also represent the same. The white, small part represents Christians and other minorities while the Green big part represent majority of Muslims in the country. At the time of foundation the name of Pakistan was “Democratic Republic of Pakistan” which should be a peaceful place and the people from all religions can do their religious things freely as they faith. Pakistan was British Colony and part of India and there were people who belong to multiple religions. That is why the blasphemy law was written in 1927, to bann insults directed against any religion.

In 1973 General Zia-Ul Haq changed the name of state in to “Islamic Democratic Pakistan” and claimed that Islam is a “State Religion”. Since the time the religious Muslims, fanatics, extremists and militants groups were promoted, and Minorities are nothing in Pakistan. Zia-Ul Haq also modified the law to protect only Islam. This was the time when blasphemy and other discriminatory laws were amended and promoted by the religious Islamic groups in Pakistan.

Presently religious discrimination is a serious issue. Christians, Hindus and Ahmadia Muslims are routinely discriminated. They are at times refused jobs, loans, housing and other similar things simply because of their faith. Christian Churches, colonies and individuals are often attacked.

Talking to the audience she said, “I come from Pakistan which is a country utterly blessed with beauty! I don’t just say it... it actually is. When we come to breathtaking landscapes and mind-blowing sceneries, Pakistan is absolutely matchless. Pakistan is as beautiful as Switzerland is, because it has very beautiful valleys in Kashmir, mountains in the northern Pakistan and deserts in Blochistan and much more. I can also say that Pakistan is the most stunning place on this planet, she added.

Ms. Sapna further stated that Pakistan is a multi religious country populated with 191 million people including 3% of minorities. Two colors of Pakistani Flag



Ms. Katherine Sapna Explaining about exhibition

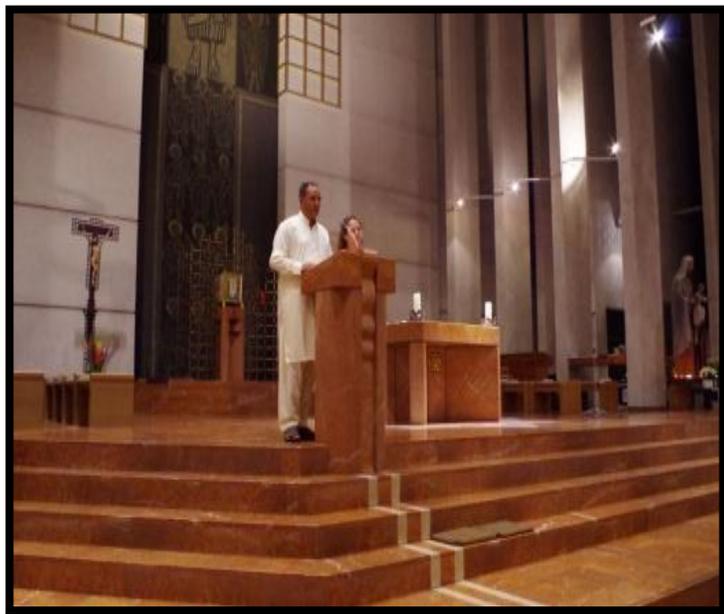
She said, that Christians' True Spirit – CTS painfully observe the sufferings after alleged incidents of blasphemy or any other alleged allegations related to the religion and always resulting inhuman mob violence, target killings, looting and burning the houses, worships places (churches) and holy books into fires etc which is alarming and it is a grave threat to the peace and security of the masses in Pakistan.

Katherine Sapna said that CTS is here; only representing the Christians persecution in Pakistan. We have experienced that the world is silent over the Christian persecution. We feel that all Christians are a part of the body of Jesus Christ. So we all should be aware of the sufferings of our brothers and sisters who live far away from us and we should feel the same pain. In the closing remarks she said that Christians' True Spirit asks international brothers and sisters to pray for Peace in



The Christians True Spirit Team

Pakistan. Pray for the Persecuted Christians and especially Asia Bibi and other blasphemy victims who are behind the bars, facing death sentence and life imprisonment. At the end she invited people to the exhibition and said that this beautiful evening you have chance to know a few stories of the persecuted Christians which are placed on the boards, you can see movies, hear audios and see the pictures and something from the culture to know about the Christian's life in Pakistan.



Mr. Nadeem Anthony Advocate while addressing the audience on state of Asia Bibi

Mr. Nadeem Anthony Advocate High Court (Legal Advisor CTS)

Mr. Anthony expressed grave concern over discriminatory legislation against Christians in Pakistan and discussed the condition of Asia Bibi and updates about her case appeal pending before the Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan and will be fixed for regular hearing in second week of October 2016. He talked about victimization against Christians in the country and shared about day to day religious intolerance and violence in the name of religion. Since the

creation of blasphemy laws, innocent people especially Christians falsely involved. The underage Christian girls are not only victims of rape but also of forced conversions and forced to marry with Muslim men. Asia Bibi is imprisoned in Women Jail Multan-Punjab Pakistan and waiting for her acquittal.

Mr. Shahbaz Bhatti Shaheed (martyr) Award



The Christians' True Spirit – CTS took an initiative to announce Mr. Shahbaz Bhatti Shaheed (martyr) Award on the birthday of the great Christian Leader, President All Pakistan Minority Alliance (APMA) and former Federal Minister for Minority Affairs in Pakistan. He raised the voice against the Christian persecution especially helped Asia Bibi the victim of blasphemy which caused assassination of Mr. Shahbaz Bhatti Shaheed by his own body guard.

This is the award in the recognition of courage and bravery of Mr. Shahbaz Bhatti Shaheed against the Christian persecution in Pakistan. The award was presented to Mr. Burkhard Schmitz, Coordinator CTS Germany and Dr. Anette Gräff by Rev. Fr. Laurentius Hohn OP, Ms. Katherine Sapna

File photo of Shahbaz Bhatti Shaheed Martyr Award
 Director CTS and Mr. Asher Sarfraz Chief Executive CTS in the recognition of the courageous and brave work and for their volunteer services and passion to work to highlight Christian persecution in Pakistan. Mr. Burkhard Schmitz and Dr. Anette Gräff is the first recipient to receive this award by Christians' True Spirit - CTS. The CTS will continue to present this award and encourage those who dedicated their lives to serve humanity. The CTS team also appreciates both the recipients for their extra ordinary

services to help CTS for organizing this exhibition on Christian persecution in Mainz, Germany. The exhibition was visited by number of people; it was a source to realize the Christian persecution in Pakistan. Ms. Katherine Sapna closed the session with thanks to the participants and especially thanks to the St. Bonifaz Parish Mainz Germany for the cooperation and appreciated Rev. Fr. Laurentius OP for his day and night struggle to make this exhibition not only possible but successful.



The CTS team with the award recipients

15)-EUROPEAN MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS HAPPY NEW YEAR PARTY AT CATHOLIC CHURCH GERMANY





In Leiden, Netherlands

Meeting with Rina Teeuwen-van Der Ende and planning about CTS work on brick kilns for women empowerment.





Wonderful time in Pakistan embassy with Pastor Eric from Holland, Mr. Latif Bhatti from Belgium, Mr. Taskeen Khan from London UK, Katherine Sapna from Pakistan



Meeting in Brussels, Belgium with Mr. Latif Bhatti, Pastor Najum Saleem, Kaneeth, Serwer, and other community members. It was pleasure meeting Mr. Taskeen Khan from glory TV UK during the evening.

It was blessing to be among the Theological Students in Germany today on December 15, 2016.

CTS team has an honor to be second time when Katharine Sapna, Burkhard Schmitz and Asher Sarfraz has been in the Seminary to speak about the work of Christians' True Spirit - CTS in Pakistan. Founded on Christian principles CTS is doing relief and development work among the vulnerable and disadvantaged community in Pakistan.



CTS meetings with EU Parliamentarians and friends at Prayer Breakfast in Brussels Belgium.





CTS team including Katherine Sapna Karamat, Burkhard Schmitz, Asher Sarfraz and Johnson William participated the penal discussion at EU Parliament on December 07, 2016. It was discussion about overall Human Rights situation, human trafficking and the violence against women.



Northern Germany - Briefing about CTS work at Fee Evangelical Church



CTS Team at St. Michael Church Gottingen Germany - Katherine Sapna sharing the situation of Minorities especially Christians in Pakistan





Ms. Katherine Sapna Director and chief patron CTS met Ms. Andrea Nederlof Senior Policy Affairs at the Dutch Foreign Ministry Netherlands and Mr. Martin First Secretary, Dutch embassy Islamabad on November 21, 2016 and shared CTS work for the persecuted Christians and the vulnerable communities especially the disadvantaged people on the brick factories. They also shared about the work of Netherlands lobbying office of CTS in Holland. MS. Andrea was so impressed by the work, what CTS contributes and offered Ms. Katherine to visit foreign affairs ministry during the upcoming visit to Holland.



CTS Executives are along with new friends for CTS and celebrating New Party in Wiesenfeld Germany.



CTS team including Ms. Katherine Sapna Director CTS and Asher Sarfraz Chief Executive was honored to have worship among the Pakistani community in Amsterdam Netherlands. The prayer was lead by the senior Pastor Eric Serwer and Pastor Nadeem Deen, Amsterdam the Netherlands.



Christmas lunch at Pakistan Embassy in Brussels, Belgium

On 17 - 12 - 2016 it was an honor to meet Ms. Ambassador, Mrs. Syeeda Sultana Rizvi the counselor (press), Mr. Giyan Chand the First Secretary (the first diplomat from Hindu Community) and the friends from Christian community from Holland and Belgium.



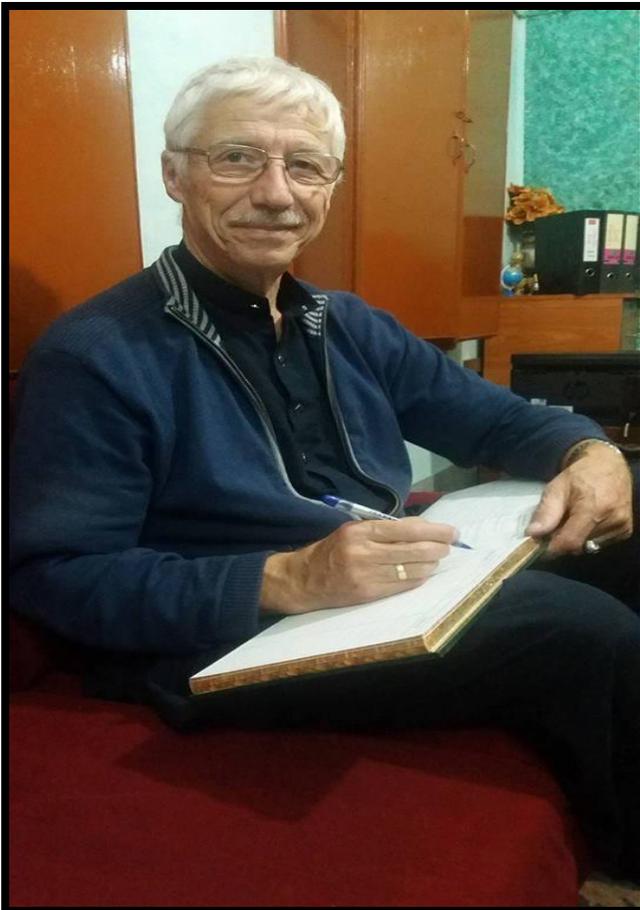


Mrs. Syeeda Sultana Rizvi the counselor (press) of Pakistan Embassy in Belgium with Asher Sarfraz Chief Executive and Katherine Sapna Director CTS



Celebrating Christmas with the Pakistan Diplomatic Mission in Belgium, Mr. Latif Bhatti Chairman Pakistan Minority Aid and Mrs. Latif Bhatti at the Pakistan Embassy Belgium

Mr. Dick Kleinhesselink visited CTS office on Sunday November 27, 2016. CTS staff and Sunday school Children warmly welcomed him by shower rose petals and garland him with fresh flowers. It was great pleasure and blessing to have him at CTS. Sunday school Children sang a welcome song in honor of Mr. Dick Kleinhesselink.



Mr. Dick Kleinhesselink writing comments
Book of CTS





Ms. Katherine Sapna Director CTS giving a brief on CTS structure and activities to Mr. Dick Kleinhesselink during his kind visit to the Christians' True Spirit – CTS office Lahore.

16)-INTERNATIONAL DAYS CELEBRATIONS

(i). Child Labor Day (June 12)

International Children's Day in District Gujranwala



International Children's Day is observed on June 12, every year. The World Conference for the Well-being of Children in Geneva, after the conference, different governments around the world decided to declare a day as Children's Day to draw attention to children's issues.

Christians' True Spirit celebrated Children's day dated on 10 June, 2016, at Verpal Chattah District Gujranwala while internationally

recognized almost a century ago is something we continue to struggle with on a universal level. CTS proclaim dedication to Education for all and the Universal Rights of the child. The program was facilitated by Mr. Sarfraz Karamat Coordinator CTS Gujranwala Region. The CTS team who participated Ms. Katherine Sapna Director, Ms. Shamshad Shafqat Board Member, Mr. Salamat Gill Coordinator Lahore Region and Mr. Nadeem Anthony Legal Advisor CTS. The mostly participation was counted of school teachers and parents.

The responsibility for providing children with the ability to capitalize on the possibilities of the future lie in the hands of those of us capable of making significant changes in the opportunities for growth and exposure to new and innovative ways of thinking and according to the constitution of Pakistan.



The opportunity to educate a child begins at birth. From the time children enter this world, they listen, they watch, they explore the world around them.



The responsibility to provide a strong foundation and opportunities for success lies in the hands of educators today. Children need advocates to give them a voice, to tell the world that they are ready, willing, and able to be the leaders of tomorrow, which is why we need to foster a lifelong love of learning for them today. That does not begin in their early teenage years. Rather, that begins with their caretakers, family,

communities, from the day they are born and is supported through educational programs when they are young and in preschool, providing a transition and strong foundation from learning at home, to learning in school, and a life full of new knowledge and growth for the rest of their lives.







(ii). Human Rights Day (December 10)



Human Rights day is celebrated every year to commemorate the Universal declaration of Human Rights and ensured to continue as common standard for all nations and generations.

Human Rights day is traditionally acknowledged by the scheduling of conferences, meetings, exhibitions and cultural events on

the subject of Human Rights. Individuals and organizations, Schools, & Universities often use December 10 to recognize human rights campaigns, hold seminars on human rights issues includes women's Rights, an end to human trafficking, a clean environment and freedom of speech.



Christians True spirit carried the tradition by celebrating Human Rights day along with School students with the collaboration of "Friends of Charity Organization" at Friends Public High School, Youhanabad, and Ferozepur Road Lahore by December 10th, 2016.

Christians' True Spirit team participated with full zest includes Miss. Asifa Sadaf (Office Assistant), Mr. Salamat Gill (Coordinator) and Mr. Suneel Karamat (Field officer).



The school students, their parents and teachers were gathered for the celebration. The Christian True Spirit's team warmly welcomed by the Principal Mr. Ashraf Rehmat , Staff and students of Friends Public High School.



The event took start with the reading of Holy Bible by a young student of the host school. Later host teacher introduce the event motto and proceeded further with the short skirts, poems, tableaus and debates by the students referring Human Rights. Miss. Asifa (Office Assistant) talked about CTS on behalf of the director CTS Ms. Katherine Sapna. She shared CTS tremendous working on basic

education for the brick kiln poor children whom parents cannot afford formal education. She also mentioned about the CTS work for persecuted Christians in Pakistan, Women rights and legal advocacy for blasphemy victims. Mr. Salamat Gill (Coordinator CTS) also talked about the Human Rights promotion by paying fully attentions to once responsibilities. Mr. Ashraf Rehmat paid thankful remarks for CTS participation to arrange such international human rights day celebration.

(iii). Women's Day (March 11)



International Women's day celebrated on 8th March every year and commemorates the movement for the women's rights. Christians True Spirit carried the tradition and celebrated International Women's day along with Yeshwa Cadet Foundation in Verpal Chattha, district Gujranawala. The event organized by the district coordinator Mr. Sarfraz

Karamat (Gujranawal) on Friday March 11, 2016.



Christians' True Spirit team consisted on Ms. Katherine Sapna (Director CTS), Ms. Shamshad Hussain (Board Member), Mr. Younis Sunny (Coordinator Lahore), Ms. Mehwish Shoukat and Mr. Suneel Karamat. The team was warmly welcomed by the school children. The huge part of the event participated by the high section of the Yeshwa Cadet Foundation. The student presented national songs for

women' day, preformed tables and also presented poems to honor the guest women and participants.

Ms. Shamshad Shafqat (Board Member CTS) delivered her appreciated speech for the school kids and their performances for the women day celebration as well as elaborated its benefits for the awareness.



Miss. Katherine Sapna (Director CTS) also talked about women day and made bundle of thanks of the Yeshwa Cadet Foundation children for their efforts to celebrate this day along with CTS team. At the end, the school students and other participants were served with refreshment.



17) DUTCH AMBASSADOR VISITED CTS

On July 14, 2016 Dutch Ambassador Ms. Jeannette Seppen and Ms. Nanna Slotze visited CTS office. Staff said a warm welcome to the guests of honor and garland them with flowers.

Mohammad Ali Lashri Chief patron, Mr. Sohail Raza Chairman and Ms. Katherine Sapna Director reported CTS work for the persecuted, especially shared the cases of forced conversion and blasphemy, protection of the families and shelter for the young girls at safe house. The delegations were mostly concerned about the misuse of blasphemy laws and asked CTS for suggestions that how Dutch Embassy can play role to raise awareness on such issues to help Pakistan to make strong strategy for awareness rising and stop the misuse of such laws.



Some more photos related to the visit of Dutch Ambassador



18)-CTS SUPPORT TO THE VICTIMS' OF FAITH (OVERSEAS)

“Asylum seekers someone whose appeal for sanctuary has to be processed.”

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) believes that everyone has a right to seek asylum from

persecution, and they do their best to protect those who are needy. UNHCR will ensure that basic life-saving and life sustaining assistance is delivered in accordance with established minimum standards.

UNHCR further describe its main objectives to secure safe and dignify asylum for all persons of concern to UNHCR, in accordance with recognized international standards;

1-Seek appropriate durable solutions for the majority of the refugees and asylum-seekers.

2-Ensure that minimum standards are maintained in the provision of essential material assistance to refugees.

Many of Pakistani Christians have been forced to leave Pakistan because of religious persecution, life threats, and accusation of Blasphemy etc. People took a track to fly to Thailand because it is quite easy to get a tourist visa to travel there, but unfortunately soon they learn that there is no hope of resettlement, as Thai government doesn't accept the people without proper work visa, and declared illegal immigrants. Thailand provides a certain degree of protection for most refugees and asylum seekers, so that's why they are under constant threat of arrest and detention. Accommodation is usually overcrowded, resettlement, though, is often a long-term process, and many asylum seekers in Thailand spend years in a legal limbo. Since mid-2006, the situation in Thailand has been characterized by a reduction of the protection space for all groups of concern. As a result, UNHCR is having difficulty in implementing its mandate. As asylum seekers, they are not permitted to engage in employment, and suffering with hunger.

Here are few Pakistani Asylum seekers who faced critical circumstances and didn't get help from UNHCR a so – called organization.

(i)-Sanina Faisal:

Sanina Faisal is a Pakistan national and faced religious persecution in Pakistan due to Christian identity, which made them to fly to Thailand along with their new born baby about three years back in 2012, having hoped to find protection by UNHCR organization. But they faced difficulties here too, due to deliberate delay asylum interviews. They face discrimination, humiliation and harsh on telephonic communication. In 2015, Sanina was expecting but unfortunately they were deprived of medical facilitation, and the constant fear of arrest made the situation worst for them which lead to a six month premature baby's death in her womb. And it was irrecoverable loss of a mother. Later Sanina was arrested by immigration Police in December, 2015 when she was busy in Christmas preparations. While she was in immigration detention

center she was in serious condition and was in need of proper medical assistance. But unfortunately UNHCR failed to perform its responsibility; it was too late when Thai authority took her in hospital, and soon after being admitted she couldn't survive. "I went through a tragic incident, firstly I lost my unborn daughter, and then my beloved wife becomes a victim of negligence of UNHCR Bangkok", said husband. A deliberate discrimination and partial attitude from UNHCR has resulted into the destruction of various Pakistani Christians in Bangkok he said.

(ii)-Zafar Maqbool:

Zafar Maqbool is a physiotherapist, and was running a center namely "Good Shepherd" for handicapped and the people who need special care for thirteen years. It was a center to serve the community without any cast and creed. During his practice he faced professional jealousy by the Muslim fanatics and they started to squeeze him by asking to embrace Islam otherwise he would be killed by involving him in false Blasphemy case. They even tortured my wife and forced her to embrace Islam but she firmly stated that "She only believes in Jesus", stated Zafar Maqbool". Zafar Maqbool had become famous and now it was difficult for him to find a secure place or to hide. He was beaten with an iron rod on his back bone, they cut his face and it was given 18 stitches, his wife was also beaten brutally that she had now spinal gap in her spinal cord, now she can't move normally. And when his family attacked by the surrounding Muslims, they didn't had another option except off to leave Pakistan to save their lives. "Since I had a long running organization for Christians for free, I got fame and had been part of certain interviews, which published in different news papers as well. In 2012, they flee to Thailand having hope that UNHCR can help them out but they found more issues and troubles rather than before they faced, Zafar added. Zafar told that his father is of 87 year old, who is sick and his health is getting down day by day. Moreover, the fears for immigration police is constantly hanging sword on us. He added, they would be detained if they come out. Further he told that after waiting for so long, they haven't been resettled and having the status of stateless sadly.

(iii)-Tariq Yousaf

Tariq Yousaf is a Pakistani Christian, married and is father of three and is the only breadwinner in the family and working in a fireworks factory. One fine day he got an order for fire crackers from one of his Muslim town fellow for fire crackers. At mid night about 12:00 customer gave him call and asked to come and take your pending amount, he replied that its too late and will collect by tomorrow, but they insisted and asked to come now. Tariq went at the called place and found that there were few burnt papers with the writing of Arabic language; they claimed that these papers were used in fire crackers and this is done by Tariq. Tariq humbly replied that he didn't do anything with

these papers, but the angry Muslims didn't hear anything and started to beat Tariq brutally. "I manage to escape but Police arrested my brother, so I may come in front to release my brother, my brother spend one year and nine months in Jail for me, Tariq said". If a Muslim governor an authority, who chooses to criticize the blasphemy law, can be murdered, then how could a common Christian citizen expect his safety. Tariq told that when he moved to Thai to save his life, he did contact to UNHCR, firstly they agreed to help me out, but later day by day they started to ignore, even they didn't bother to answer my phone calls. The main cause of failure to have interaction with UNHCR is about interpreter, if an Ahmadis can have another Ahmadis as his interpreter then why a Christian Asylum seeker provided with a Muslim interpreter. It is an open discrimination which leads to disaster of Pakistani Christian families in Bangkok.

(iv)-Babar Bhatti:

Babar Bhatti another Christian who become a victim of negligence of the organization UNHCR. Babar Bhatti has been living for fourteen months in Bangkok. Immigration Police arrested him and sent him to IDC (International Detention Coalition). Baber told that he was put in a small cell, where there were already more than 160 people from different countries, and they were fighting with each other. He told that people were having cucumber soup and rice as food, and many of them were becoming sick. "UNHCR's non cooperation has made lives miserable is Bangkok" further he stated.

(v)-Amanat Chana:

Amanat Chana is a Christian who has been leaving in Bangkok for last one year, he told that one and half month ago he was arrested by Immigration Police, after he got arrested he called at UNHCR. UNHCR respond to him by saying that not to worry they will do for him as they are with him. Later, any support was not provided as UNHCR clearly said they can do nothing. Amanat Masih said that being an asylum seeker he is not allowed to do work to survive, he lives with empty pockets. He told that in jail, asylum seekers are mentally tortured and treated inhumanly. Small barracks of detention center are overcrowded with more than two hundred people from different nationalities. During the detention of Amanat Masih, he faced hurdles. There were only 3 toilets for hundreds of people and there wasn't a proper place even to sleep. The normal people were helpless to sleep with asthma patients and patients of mental illness, he added.

This is not only about discussed people who are facing critical situations in Bangkok but thousands of people are in line to get permit of safe lives for many years. Its dilemma that an organization like UNHCR is failed to protect the rights of persecuted and refusing to provide them asylum, and they are rejecting asylum cases without any right of appeal. Thai authorities do not tolerate over stay or illegal living of people in Thailand.

They raiding the houses of the asylum seekers and arresting them along with families and put them in detention. Families can get bail after paying high fine (50,000 Bath). Several hundred people have been deported by Thai authorities back to Pakistan after facing detention and paying high fine too.

19)-SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER'S TRAINING



CTS believe that Sunday school teachers' effectiveness can double with just few hours of Sunday school teacher training. The importance of Sunday school teachers' training cannot be overemphasized. The majority of the teachers may have had little or no previous teacher training, so they may not be aware of some of the most basic educational principals. Few training sessions can make their effectiveness double productive for the children's learning.

With Sunday school teachers' training CTS aims to develop transformational teachers who teach both the head and the heart. this is the teaching goal and methodology the public school system, when they become a Sunday School teacher, they likewise provide information pertaining to biblical events, dates, background material, Old Testament history, New Testament customs, theology, and more. All good stuff, but Jesus calls us not to give information, but to make disciples. CTS organized, such annually trainings for Sunday school teachers for their skills development, to make them boost with more energy to deliver. CTS do believe in,

“CLEARLY, OUR TEACHING GOAL NEEDS TO BE ON TEACHING TO TRANSFORMATION NOT INFORMED”.



20)- PROTEST DEMONSTRATION AGAINST VIOLATIONS

Christians' True Spirit Staged protest against Child Abduction dated on 16th August, 2016 in front of Lahore Press Club, Punjab and warned Punjab government to take serious action against the culprits and Mafia who are responsible of Children' abduction and also released a press statement.





Christmas Ration Distribution among Victim Families, 2016

Christmas seasons is sharing, it doesn't need to be rich to share blessings to the poor or needy. There is no other way but only God can give us the opportunity to give and only He can give us the love to give. Without turning our eyes to our creator, our gifts, presents could be sources of pride or pain. Christmas reminds us that we must give without hoping for anything in return. CTS do believe that we must give as He gives, by remembering that God lovingly gave His son Jesus Christ to save us and give us eternal life.

Some of low income families as well as victim families and individuals benefits from Christians' True Spirit in form of ration distributions particularly during Christmas season. On December 07, 2016 Christmas blessings were shared with needy families and distributed the Ration and clothes to make the joyful occasion / season for all of them. Mr. Sohail Raza (Chairperson) distributed the ration among the families by himself.

Later the families and individuals were served with refreshment as well as cut the Christmas cake.





21). PRESS RELEASE CORNER

(i). Suicidal Blast on the day of Easter in Lahore



Christians' True Spirit – CTS

Press Release

Christians' True Spirit (CTS) has strongly condemned the series of deadly terrorist attacks carried out in Brussels and wicked terror attack in Lahore Gulsan-e-Iqbal Park Pakistan on the day of Easter and calls for prayers for the affected.



Mr. Asher Sarfraz Chief Executive, called an urgent meeting at CTS's international office in Germany and expressed his grave concern over the deliberate targeting, unacceptable and unjust killing in the heart of Europe on March 23, 2016 in the Holy Week of Easter, in which more than 40 innocent people killed and near about 170 injured at Brussels Zaventem International Airport and at Mallbeek Metro Station in Brussels.



Mr. Asher Sarfraz

Ms. Katherine Sapna

Mr. Sohail Raza

Mr. Nadeem Anthony

Mr. Asher Sarfraz also expressed his grief concerns on the killing of more than 78 innocent people in Lahore and near about 350 injured at Gulshan-e-Iqbal Lahore Pakistan. He condemned the terrorist attack and demanded the President & Prime Minister of Pakistan for stern action against terrorist and their facilitators. The Lahore carnage on the day of Easter is a message of wilderness from the religious banned outfits to the Christian community in Pakistan.

Mr. Asher Sarfraz noted, "Apart from the loss of precious lives and sufferings after these acts of terror and horror in Brussels, Belgium and Lahore, Pakistan disturbed the World Peace and the CTS encouraged prayer for and solidarity with the victims and those close to them. He appeals to all people of good will to unite in the unanimous condemnation against extremists and banned outfits.

No, doubt, this act of violence and indiscriminate cruel attacks on ordinary human beings directly creates wider tensions and difficulties for Europe and Europeans to play constructive role to support those who are seeking asylum to escape from the ongoing distress and pain which is being experienced in several parts of the Middle East. The members of the CTS shared including Ms. Katherine Sapna (Director CTS), Mr. Sohail Raza (Chairman CTS), and Mr. Nadeem Anthony (Legal Advisor CTS) has same concerns.

Note: Christians' True Spirit (CTS) is a non-government; nonprofit Christian organization in Pakistan founded in 2010 and registered in the year 2015. CTS conduct its relief and development work with a special focus on disadvantaged children living in poverty. Founded on Christian principles, CTS also engages in public policy advocacy work as a way of combating pervasive social injustice. Collaboration with international partners CTS work in areas like education, advocacy, health and protection / shelter of young women, children and families.

Issued by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Sapna'.

**Katherine Sapna
Director CTS**

(ii). Press Release on Kidnapping and Missing of children in Lahore



Christians' True Spirit – CTS

Press Release

The Christians' True Spirit (CTS) has expressed grave concern over the suspected kidnapping / missing of children in Lahore and out skirts of Lahore. Abduction of huge number is a stark shock that cannot be described in words. CTS have seen on electronic media, the wailing and anguish faces of mothers and other family members whose children were abducted and those who could not be traced and such families are in perpetual agony.

CTS has noticed that the evil and heartless elements abducting tender age boys and girls on their way to tuitions, school , playing somewhere in the streets or in open places, from the hospitals and those going to a neighborhood shop etc. The Christians' True spirit has also expressed serious concerns over the poor performances of law enforcement agencies who had failed to nab the devil of this network even after the day to day happening of abduction of children. CTS urged the authorities who must have been alarmed over the disappearances of children in such a large number.

The large number of abduction of children is a fundamental issue and also is challenge to the authorities to smash and destroy the monstrous networks of the abductors and their cohorts and award them swift punishments. It is a dark blot on the face of Pakistan that must be washed off by stringent and urgent measures.

CTS welcome the Suo Motto notice of apex court of the country and anticipate on the court order to probe the child kidnapping.

Issued By:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Sapna', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

**Katherine Sapna
Director CTS**

22). RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The government must ensure that Christians and other religious minorities must not exploited religiously, economically, politically or socially and there is need to campaign urging respect for all religions must be promoted at all levels.
2. The state should seriously address the growing issue of forced conversion of underage Christian and Hindi girls into Islam and forced marriages of Christians and members of other minority communities.
3. The education syllabuses that promoting radical teachings, hatred in the name of religion must be stopped and the government should ensure that the students educated about religious tolerance and harmony.
4. The state is responsible to provide employment opportunities to its non-Muslim citizens on equal basis and there should be no discriminations on the basis of their religion.
5. The issues of the brick kiln must be addressed according to law and the state must constitute vigilant committees on brick kiln labors and they should be monitored and the brick making factories and to keep an eye on the circumstances of forced labor at the brick kiln.
6. The state should be responsible for protecting its citizens especially the Christians from cowards' terrorist attacks on places of worships and settlements where majority residents are non-Muslim and the state should provide complete and foolproof security etc.
7. The laws alone will not end violence against minorities, women, children and the vulnerable section of society the state should make existing mechanisms for redress more effective and set up new mechanism that can ensure that female victims of violence receive justice.
8. The criminal justice system in the country must ensure the equal justice without any discrimination and fair decisions on the witness of woman, who raped, abducted, forcedly converted and married, without her own will. Also the statement of a minor should be admissible and should not be considered as true in the case of forced conversion.

9. Laws should be vigorously applied to protect working women, especially maid servants from all forms of violence, sexual abuse, discrimination and harassment at work place.
10. Networking among the NGOs and civil society should be strong and they should have strong relationship and should support each other in advocacy and lobbying for amendment and repeal of discriminatory laws.
11. Under the present situation of the misuse of discriminatory laws in particular the blasphemy laws against the Christians, the CTS urging the government to take appropriate measures to protect individuals charged under the alleged blasphemy accusations and their families during trial.

Feedback and suggestions are valuable for CTS, please must share

**Katherine Sapna
Director Christian' True Spirit (CTS)**

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