Urgent Appeal to the Foreign Affairs Committee

<u>Subject: Immediate Action Needed to Address Persecution of Religious Minorities in Pakistan.</u>

Dear Members of the Foreign Affairs Committee,

We write to express our deep concern regarding the ongoing and escalating persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan, particularly the Ahmadiyya Muslim community. In light of recent developments, we urge the Committee to take immediate and concrete steps to address this grave human rights issue.

Despite international commitments and constitutional promises, Pakistan continues to foster a climate of intolerance and systematic discrimination against religious minorities. The Ahmadiyya community, in particular, faces violent attacks, arbitrary arrests, desecration of graves and places of worship, and the criminalization of their religious identity under Pakistan's anti-Ahmadi laws.

Because of this alarming situation, we respectfully urge the Committee to:

- 1. **Raise the issue directly with Pakistani authorities** at the highest diplomatic levels and demand an end to the persecution of Ahmadis and other religious minorities.
- Condition development aid and bilateral cooperation on measurable and verifiable improvements in religious freedom and human rights protections, including the repeal or reform of discriminatory laws.
- 3. **Hold a dedicated committee hearing** on the persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan, with a focus on the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, and invite testimonies from survivors, human rights experts, and relevant NGOs.

We believe that foreign policy should reflect the core values of human dignity and religious freedom. Silence and inaction in the face of such systemic abuse risk being interpreted as tacit approval.

We thank you for your leadership and commitment to human rights and stand ready to support your efforts in this area.

Sincerely,

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