

Religious and Ahmadi-specific Laws

General Zia's Notorious Ordinance XX of 1984 and the Blasphemy Law

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PART 1

Acts, Ordinances, President's Orders and Regulations including Martial law Orders and Regulations

Government of Pakistan

MINISTRY OF LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(LAW DIVISION)

Islamabad, the 26th April 1984

No. F.17 (1) 84-Pub. The following Ordinance made by the President is hereby published for general information.

ORDINANCE NO. XX OF 1984
AN ORDINANCE

to amend the law to prohibit the Qadiani group, Lahori group and Ahmadis from indulging in anti-Islamic activities:

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the law to prohibit the Qadiani group, Lahori group and Ahmadis from indulging in anti-Islamic activities:

AND WHEREAS the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action:

NOW, THEREFORE, in pursuance of the Proclamation of the fifth day of July, 1977, and in exercise of all powers enabling him in that behalf, the President is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:

PART I - PRELIMINARY

1. Short title and commencement.

- (1) This Ordinance may be called the Anti-Islamic Activities of the Qadiani Group, Lahori Group and Ahmadis (Prohibition and Punishment) Ordinance, 1984.
- (2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Ordinance to override orders or decisions of courts.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall have effect notwithstanding any order or decision of any court.

PART II - AMENDMENT OF THE PAKISTAN PENAL CODE

(ACT XLV OF 1860)

3. Addition of new sections 298B and 298C, Act XLV of 1860.

In the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860), in Chapter XV, after section 298A, the following new sections shall be added, namely:

"298B. Misuse of epithets, descriptions and titles, etc., reserved for certain holy personages or places.

- (1) Any person of the Qadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or by any other name) who by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation;
- (a) refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a Caliph or companion of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), as 'Ameerul Mumineen', 'Khalifa-tul-Mumineen', 'Khalifa-tul-Muslimeen', 'Sahaabi' or 'Razi Allah Anho'
 - (b) refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a wife of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) as 'Ummul-Mumineen'
 - (c) (c) refers to, or addresses, any person, other than a member of the family (Ahle-bait) of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), as 'Ahle-bait'; or
 - (d) refers to, or names, or calls, his place of worship as 'Masjid';
- shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.
- (2) Any person of the Qadiani group or Lahori group (who call themselves Ahmadis or by any other name) who by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representation, refers to the mode or form of call to prayers followed by his faith as 'Azan' or recites *Azan* as used by the Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years, and shall also be liable to fine.
- (3) **298C. Person of Qadiani group etc., calling himself a Muslim or preaching or propagating his faith.**
Any person of the Qadiani group or the Lahori group (who call themselves 'Ahmadis' or by any other name), who, directly or indirectly, poses himself as Muslim, or calls, or refers to, his faith as Islam, or preaches or propagates his faith, or invites others to accept his faith, by words, either spoken or written, or by visible representations, or in any manner whatsoever outrages the religious feelings of Muslims, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine."

**PART III AMENDMENT OF THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE 1898
(ACT V OF 1898)**

4. Amendment of section 99A, Act V of 1898. In the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898), hereinafter referred to as the said Code, in section 99A, in sub-section (I):

- (a) after the words and comma "of that class", the words, figures, brackets, letter and commas "or any matter of the nature referred to in clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 24 of the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance, 1963," shall be inserted; and
- (b) after the figure and letter "295A", the words, figures and letters "or section 298A or section 298B or section 298C" shall be inserted.

5. Amendment of Schedule II. Act V of 1898. In the said Code, in Schedule II, after the entries relating to section 298A, the following entries shall be inserted, namely:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
298B	Misuse of epithets, descriptions and titles, etc,	Ditto	Ditto	Not bailable	Ditto	Imprisonment of either description for three	Ditto

	reserved for certain holy personages or places				years, and fine.	
298C	Person of Quadiani group, etc. calling himself a Muslim or preaching or propagating his faith.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto

PART IV AMENDMENT OF THE WEST PAKISTAN PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE 1963 (W.P. ORDINANCE NO. XXX OF 1963)

6. Amendment of section 24, West Pakistan Ordinance No. XXX of 1963.
 In the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance, 1963 (W.P. Ordinance No. XXX of 1963), in section 24, in sub-section (1) after clause (i), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely;

“(ii) are of the nature referred to in section 298A, section 298B. or section 298C of the Pakistan Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860), or”,

General, M. Zia-Ul-Haq,
 President.