
Background- Persecution of Ahmadiyyat Muslims

This document contextualizes religious freedom violations against Ahmadiyya Muslims, shining a light on the worrying trend of growing state persecution of members of this community and links it with the potential threat of white nationalists and with neo nazi's. The Ahmadiyya Community has long championed peace, tolerance, and loyalty to our nation, guided by our motto: Love for All, Hatred for None. As a community that has historically faced targeted persecution, discrimination, and even violent attacks in several parts of the world, we are acutely aware of the dangers posed by extremist ideologies.

Ahmadiyya Muslims face persecution and discrimination in a range of Muslim-majority countries, including Algeria, Pakistan, and Malaysia, the three examples highlighted here. In these countries, authorities have targeted Ahmadis through hate speech and speech inciting violence against them, denied them citizenship, restricted their rights to worship, and prosecuted them for practicing their faith, including by charging them with, and in some cases convicting them of, blasphemy. Some states prohibit Ahmadis from declaring their faith publicly, criminalize them for identifying as Muslim, and prohibit them from calling their houses of worship mosques. States have also tolerated violence and hate speech against Ahmadis by no state actors.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim community was founded in 1889 in Punjab, India. The group's founder, Mīrzā Ghulām Ahmad, claimed to be the *mahdī* or messiah—a figure or religious leader prophesized in many religions to appear towards the end of the world. It has an estimated tens of millions of members globally, according to group advocates, including in South and Southeast Asia, West and North Africa, the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada.

Because of the differences between Ahmadiyya beliefs and beliefs in Sunni and Shi'a Islam, many Muslims consider Ahmadiyya Muslims to be heretics. Some governments that enforce an official interpretation of Islam as the state religion deem Ahmadiyya Muslims to be non-Muslims and place legal restrictions on Ahmadiyya Muslim practice. Ahmadiyya Muslims have also faced restrictions and societal discrimination in both Muslim and non-Muslim majority countries.

Potential persecution link with Terrorgram

We understand deeply what it means to live under the shadow of threats, intimidation, and hate-motivated campaigns. This lived experience gives us a unique perspective. We know the cost of ignoring groups that preach exclusion, hatred, and violence against others.

Terrorgram engages in a system of propaganda displaying individuals who carry out acts of terrorism as a 'Saint', as a means of encouraging members to carry out attacks in their own locations.

Terrorgram continue to utilise the events of the 2019 Christchurch attack and the offender's manifesto to amplify the organisation's ideology, inciting subsequent attacks and manifestos. As demonstrated by the number of attacks that have attributed their inspiration to key figures in Terrorgram 'pantheon' of 'Saints', this method is a highly effective technique.

Continued vigilance is essential

Australia is a proudly multicultural nation. The safety of all citizens—regardless of faith, race, or background—must remain paramount. Allowing extremist groups such as [Organisation under Review] to operate unchecked would pose:

- A risk to national security, as their rhetoric may inspire lone-actor terrorism.
- A threat to social cohesion, by undermining multicultural harmony.
- A danger to faith communities, including Muslims, Jews, Christians, and others who have historically been the targets of white nationalist violence.

Just as authorities have acted decisively against religious extremist groups, so too must equal seriousness be applied to white nationalist extremism.

Recommendation

In light of the evidence of hate-driven ideology and its proven potential to incite violence, we strongly recommend that:

- Terrorgram continued to be designated as a terrorist organisation under Australian law.
- Resources be allocated to relevant intelligence organisations monitor and disrupt its networks, both online and offline.
- Preventative education and counter-extremism initiatives address white nationalist radicalisation with the same urgency afforded to other forms of extremism.

Conclusion

As representatives of a community that has long endured persecution, we urge Parliament to act with foresight and fairness. Hate—regardless of its source—must be confronted with equal resolve. By designating [White Nationalist Organisation] as a terrorist threat, Australia reaffirms its commitment to protecting all its citizens and safeguarding our shared values of peace, equality, and mutual respect.

Respectfully submitted,

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On behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Australia