

LONDON, 19 August 2010

PRESS RELEASE

US CITIZEN KILLED IN RELIGIOUSLY MOTIVATED ATTACK IN PAKISTAN

Pir Habib al-Rehman becomes second Ahmadi Muslim killed in Pakistan this week



It is with great sadness and regret that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat hereby confirms that a well-known and loved Ahmadi Muslim, Pir Habib al-Rehman (60) was martyred earlier today near Sanghar in Sindh Province.

According to details currently available Pir Habib-al-Rehman was on his way to his farm when two masked assailants approached his vehicle and shot him twice. One of the shots fired was directly at his head. He was rushed to hospital by his nephew and three labourers who were with him at the time, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

The perpetrators of the crime immediately fled the scene and remain unidentified.

Pir Habib al-Rehman was a US citizen and had been in Pakistan on personal business. Thus he is the second US citizen in two years to be martyred for being an Ahmadi. In September 2008 Dr Abdul Mannan Siddiqi, also a US citizen, was brutally killed in Mirpurkhas.

Pir Habib al-Rehman was a kind and humble man who harbored no enmity against anyone. He was 60 at the time of his death and is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters. In 2006 his brother, Dr Pir Mujeeb al –Rehman, was also martyred for being an Ahmadi Muslim.

The deceased was actively involved with the work of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat and performed great service, in particular, to the development and maintenance of the Jamaat's official website 'Alislam.org'.

The Press Secretary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat, Abid Khan said:

"The murder of Pir Habib al-Rehman has caused great sadness to all Ahmadis around the world. This incident follows on from the martyrdom of Dr Najam al-Hasan also in Sindh just a couple of days ago. Such violence results from the continuing hatred that is spread throughout Pakistan against our Community. We call upon the international community and media to take notice of the continued persecution of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat in Pakistan."

End

Further Info: Abid Khan press@ahmadiyya.org.uk