



Jinnah Award

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Pakistani Minorities, Co-Chair Lord Alton and Baroness Kennedy, presented the first Jinnah Award for Religious Freedom to the winner, Advocate Saif ul Malook, on 7 November 2022, in a ceremony in the House of Lords. The winner selected by an International Jury of prominent judges, was commended by Lord Alton and Baroness Kennedy, for showing exemplary courageous leadership and excellence in promoting the human rights in Pakistan, and particularly obtaining the release of three victims of Pakistan's draconian blasphemy laws, from death sentence: Asia Bibi, Shagufta Kausar and her husband Shafqat Emmanuel, despite receiving many death threats. Advocate Saif ul Malook, in his acceptance speech, described about his struggle to free three Christian victims from the death sentence; and committed himself to carry on campaigning for human rights of all Pakistan citizens.

Persecution of Christians debate in the Parliament



A Westminster Hall debate on Christian persecution around the world took place on Thursday 17 November. The debate was led



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by Jim Shannon MP and Fiona Bruce MP. The APPG sent urgent briefings on persecution of Christians in Pakistan. Furthermore, a meeting with Professor Anjum Paul, on a visit to the UK, that day, provided further briefing material for Mr. Shannon's opening speech.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2022-11-17/debates/161A4B34-BD92-45B6-B3EE-ODD4AC69D62A/PersecutionOfChristians>

Pakistani Christians left out of the World Bank's Poverty Alleviation Fund



A study of the World Bank's Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) released on Oct. 26, says the financial assistance often failed to include the poorest sections of the country's religious minorities. The research titled International Assistance and Impoverished Religious Minorities in Pakistan authored by Asif Aqeel and Advocate Mary Gill examines the inadequacies of the World Bank program worth US\$250 million, that is said to have benefited marginalized and vulnerable people, half of them women, from June 2009 to Sept. 2015. [What About Us eBook.pdf \(ids.ac.uk\)](#)

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