

Press Release**Caving in to European Union (EU) Pressure, the Bajwa-Imran Regime Supports the Overturning of Blasphemy Case Conviction**

Pakistan's Prime Minister, Imran Khan, backed the Supreme Court's sudden decision to overturn the 2010 conviction of Asia Bibi for blasphemy, as a result of mounting European pressure. The EU's Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief outside the European Union, Ján Figel', visited Pakistan in December 2017 and linked the release of Asia Bibi to Europe's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) Plus Scheme for Pakistan. On 1 February 2018, the EU stated, "The EU countries have started believing that Pakistan's Supreme Court, appeasing certain political and fundamental forces of Pakistan, is intentionally delaying the hearing of Asia Bibi." Then on 24 February 2018, Pope Francis met with Asia Bibi's family to demand her release. And then on 29 October 2018, just two days before the U-turn over Asia Bibi, Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, met the European Parliament's South Asia Delegation to strengthen relations with Europe. By caving in to Europe, the Bajwa-Imran regime sank to a low that even the spineless Nawaz Sharif did not sink to. Thus, Muslims grieved whilst the Europeans celebrated, with the blasphemer Geert Wilders tweeting, "Fantastic news! #AsiaBibi is acquitted and released!"

The Bajwa-Imran regime backed the overturning of the blasphemy conviction, even though Asia Bibi was not only sentenced to death for blasphemy in November 2010, the death sentence was confirmed by the High Court of Lahore on 14 October 2014 so forcefully that it even issued a stay order against any presidential pardon. The caving in before the European Union by the current rulers contrasts strongly with that of the Uthmaani Khilafah, when it faced blasphemy from the two European empires of its time, Britain and France. When the Khalifah, Sultan Abdul Hamid II, was informed of a play defaming RasulAllah (saaw) being staged in Britain and France, his ambassador sternly warned France, which promptly stopped the play. However, Britain's reply was that banning the play would be an infringement on the "freedom" of its citizens. So the Khaleefah simply declared, "I will issue an edict to the Islamic Ummah declaring that Britain is attacking and insulting our Prophet. I will declare Jihad..." And it was Britain that caved in immediately.

**O Muslims of Pakistan!** There are red lines in our Deen which can never be crossed, compromised or traded away. The protection of Islam's sanctities demands the resolute, strong stance, fearing none but Allah (swt) Who Alone is to be feared. Enough of Imran Khan and his false promises to be sincere to our Deen and the Madinah State. So that all the sanctities of Islam are truly protected, work with earnest for the re-establishment of the Khilafah (Caliphate) on the Method of the Prophethood. Allah (swt) said, **إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ لَعَنَهُمُ اللَّهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَأَعَدَّ لَهُمْ عَذَابًا مُّهِينًا** "Those who harm Allah and His Messenger - Allah has cursed them in this World and in the Hereafter, and has prepared for them a humiliating Punishment" [Al-Ahzab: 57].

**Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir  
in Wilayah Pakistan**