

His Excellency
Mr. Arif Alvi
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
via Botschaft der Islamischen Republik Pakistan
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October 2022

Your Excellency;

Please forgive me for taking the liberty of bringing the fate of the Pakistani citizen, Mr. Nadeem James, from the locality of Sarai Alamgir in the District of Gujrat (Punjab Province) to your attention.

He has been incarcerated since July 12, 2016. The relevant court in Gujrat sentenced him to death on September 14, 2017. He allegedly published a poem on July 4, 2016, on the short message application WhatsApp. This poem violates Article 295 Sections A and C of the Pakistani Criminal Code. But this father of two really never learned how to read or write.

He was also in conflict with the man who reported the alleged poem to the authorities. This man had repeatedly pressured Mr. James to renounce his Christian faith. Observers have the well-founded suspicion that it is not the convicted Mr. James but the alleged witnesses who lack respect for members of a different religion. I therefore humbly beseech you, dear Mr. President, to do everything in your power to ensure that the next competent higher court deals with the case quickly and decisively. Nadeem James appealed the first-instance verdict but has been awaiting trial ever since. I also ask you, in view of some lynchings in the past, to order the protection and physical integrity of this Pakistani Christian.

Most respectfully,