

His Excellency
Mr. Arif Alvi
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
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via
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Your Excellency;

Please forgive me for taking the liberty of bringing the fate of the Pakistani citizen, Mr. Anwar Kenneth, from Lahore to your attention. He has been in prison since 2001. On July 18, 2002, this Christian was sentenced to death for alleged blasphemy because he had written letters to local clergy that contradicted Islamic beliefs. On June 30, 2014, the next court instance confirmed this verdict. The case is now pending before the Supreme Court.

Due to mental health issues reported by a credible source, he may, however be psychologically incapacitated and therefore not be guilty of the alleged blasphemy. Furthermore, it is incompatible with the right of religious freedom to penalize the invitation to a discussion of religious beliefs. It appears to be obvious that in this case an example was set to prevent public expression of a minority religion in Pakistan. However, Pakistan has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in June of 2010, which also guarantees freedom of religion.

In view of the more than 20 years Mr. Anwar Kenneth has spent in prison, I would humbly beseech you, dear Mr. President, to do everything in your power to advocate that the next instance deals with this case quickly and that he is released immediately. I also respectfully ask you to do your part for Mr. Kenneth's safety in light of past lynchings.

Most respectfully,