

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) PRE-SESSIONS 32

STATEMENT ON AFGHANISTAN

By UNITED SIKHS



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The International Community must protect the Sikh and Hindu Religious Minority of Afghanistan who face extinction in Afghanistan following the recent escalation of militancy

Questions

We request the Missions to ask Afghanistan the following questions:

1. Has Afghanistan implemented the Recommendations on religious freedom that were agreed to during the second cycle in 2014?
2. If yes, what are the specific details of the implementation of the said Recommendations?

Recommendations

To address the issues faced by Sikhs and Hindus in Afghanistan, we urge Permanent Missions to make the following key recommendations to Afghanistan during its upcoming review:

Recommendation 1

- Implement the unfulfilled recommendations on Freedom of Religion or Belief that were made during the last review;

Recommendation 2

- Set a time frame for a fact-finding visit to Afghanistan by the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief;

Recommendation 3

- Establish an independent body to:
 - a) Investigate the statement by Sikh and Hindu minorities that they have not received any support for religious freedom;
 - b) Review and produce a report for the OHCHR on all complaints of religious freedom issues faced by Sikhs and Hindus.

Recommendation 4

- Execute a specific plan administered by United Nations Assistance Mission on Afghanistan (UNAMA) to immediately protect the Sikh and Hindu places of worship,

Recommendation 5

- If it is not possible for the Government and UNAMA to immediately protect Sikhs and Hindus from attacks and risk of religious persecution, then, secure their immediate relocation as protected persons in a safe country on humanitarian grounds

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