RASHTRA JYOTI

ANALYSIS BRIEF
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Pakistan · From the reporting archive

How Pakistan's Ramzan Restrictions Become Tools of Persecution

Original analysis by **Swati Goel Sharma**

Pakistan’s restrictions on public eating during Ramzan are used to harass religious minorities. Videos from Sindh show police assaulting shopkeepers and making a Hindu eatery owner swear on a murti that he would not sell food, and the Sindh Human Rights Commission ordered an inquiry after footage circulated.



Picture for representation

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- The article describes the 1981 ordinance as restricting Muslims' public eating and drinking while prohibiting hotels from serving food during fasting hours.
- A video described in the report showed a policeman forcing a Hindu dhaba owner to hold a deity's image on his head and swear against selling food.
- After the footage spread, the Sindh Human Rights Commission ordered an inquiry; Pakistani media reported that Khanpur police station's in-charge had been suspended.
- The article cites an earlier reported police assault on an eighty-year-old Hindu food seller in the same district as evidence of repeated abuse.

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SCAN TO SUPPORT

Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in March 2023. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.