

*I would like to draw your attention to the recent violence which has erupted in the Punjab town of Jaranwala, near Faisalabad, in Pakistan.*

*Aid to the Church in Need, the Catholic charity which supports persecuted Christians around the world, has on-the-ground sources who report that over 20 churches have been burnt, up to 2,000 people have had to flee their homes, and messages were read out over loudspeakers calling on local people to “go out and kill” Christians.*

*This is an incredibly distressing situation, to which the UK has an obligation to respond. As such, I would greatly appreciate if you could contact the UK High Commissioner, Ms Jane Marriott, and urge her to seek assurances from the Pakistan government that robust security measures will be put in place to ensure the safety and protection of Christians in the Jaranwala area. Additionally, I would encourage you to ask Ms Marriott to call on the Pakistan government to stop the abuse of blasphemy laws across the country.*

*If you would like any more information on the unfolding situation in Pakistan, do not hesitate to contact the Head of Press and Public Affairs at Aid to the Church in Need, John Pontifex. You can reach him via email:*

*<mailto:john.pontifex@acnuk.org>.*

*Thank you for your time in reading this, and I look forward to hearing back from you soon regarding the measures you have taken to address this urgent situation.*