

Pakistan – Human Rights Violations

QUESTION

Why does Canada ignore Pakistan's abysmal human rights record?

SUGGESTED REPLY

- Canada is concerned about human rights abuses in Pakistan. We regularly raise these concerns with Pakistan, bilaterally and in multilateral fora such as the United Nations General Assembly and the UNCHR.
- At the same time, we acknowledge that Pakistan is in a period of economic and social transition where ethnic and class differences are acute. The Pakistani government recognizes that human rights abuses are a serious social problem. Since emerging from martial law, Pakistan has taken steps toward greater protection of human rights, both legislatively and through social and economic development.
- Pakistan has acknowledged the need to change discriminatory legislation, and prevent discrimination against minorities including the Ahmadiyas and Christians.
- Canada is supporting the greater protection of human rights in Pakistan through our development cooperation program.
- Canada has assisted and consulted with leading human rights activists, and has provided advice on Canadian human rights legislation and procedures.