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ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF DISCRIMINATIONS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Thank you Mr. President and the Chair for giving me the opportunity to highlights the *root causes* of discriminations in the administration of justice.

John Locke (1689), the great philosopher of his time says, "wherever law ends, tyranny beings". Unfortunately, discriminations, especially with minorities, become a routine exercise wherever the man-made law is aimed for the benefit of privileged clas while the common people become the targets of arbitrary laws. Mention must be made of A.V. Dicey's Three Principles on the Rule of Law. Who Says:

- (i) No one should be punished until proved guilty in the court of law.
- (ii) No one is above the law and all should be treated equally.
- (iii) Constitution must be regarded supreme and no unconstitutional steps be taken. Unfortunately, today's modern world is replete with unconstitutional and arbitrary powers to punish

individuals, especially minorities. Such unlawful steps are inconsistent with internationally recognized covenants such as Universal Chartered of Human Rights and the UN's Mandate on the rights of

minorities.

Let's focus on Pakistan as an example where the infamous Hudood Ordinance and Blasphemy Law are used to implicate falsified charges against minorities such as Christians, Hindus and Ahmadis etc. Such discriminatory legislations have deprived minorities off the Right to Life. The religious extremists and terrorists are aided by security organisations to burn, ransack and plunder the properties of those falsely accused while killing the former also becomes justified. Similarly, the Hazaras are also suffering persecution in Pakistan and Afghanistan whose target-killers and perpetrators are either covertly supported by governments in killing them or the safe escape of the killers, after every incident, is facilitated.

When the religious extremists, terrorists, their supporters, financiers and sympathizers etcare not brought to justice, then, how can one expect the supremacy of law? Therefore, it is important to repeal such discriminatory legislations with the aim of penalizing the perpetrators and providing security to minorities. Such actions shall pave the way for a just society and establish the *rule of law*.

(Thanks for listening to me patiently).