



To:

Embassy of Pakistan in Belgium
Ambassador Zaheer A Janjua
Delleurlaan 57

1170 Brussels

SHF/bsb 2019/139
Brussels, October 31, 2019.

Your Excellency,

Please accept the greetings from the United Protestant Church in Belgium.

Writing to you on 31 October, we cannot but start this letter with expressing our sincere condolences with the bereaved families and friends of the dozens of passengers who died in the train which caught fire when travelling between Karachi and Rawalpindi. We pray to God that He will give the comfort that only He can extend.

Mr. Ambassador, it has been brought to our attention that the Edwardes College in Peshawar has been nationalised. The College, which is owned by the Church of Pakistan, was established at the beginning of the last century and is renowned for the quality of its education. Although owned by the Church of Pakistan, it is an open institution which welcomes students from all walks of life. As such, the College serves as an example of promoting peace and understanding between different social and religious groups in Pakistani society.

We are very concerned about this development and the implications thereof for minority groups, including Christians, in Pakistan. It may strengthen the feeling of minority groups that their vulnerable positions are further undermined.

It would be interesting for us to know more about the reasons why the Edwardes College was nationalised. What is required for the College to be returned to its rightful owners?

We are grateful for the consideration you may give to this issue.

In the meantime, we remain,
respectfully yours,

Rev. Steven Fuite
President