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JUDICIARY

January 13, 2015

His Excellency Jalil Abbas Jilani
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan
3517 International Court NW,
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador Jilani,

I recently learned of a cemetery located in Karachi that holds the remains of both Muslim and Jewish Pakistanis. Current news reports suggest that the Jewish section of the Karachi cemetery in the Mewa Shah burial district is currently being encroached upon.

My hope is that you and your government realize the importance of allowing all cultures and religions the respect they deserve when burying and honoring the dead. Many throughout Pakistan and the international community, support measures to protect this cemetery and to preserve the memories of those who passed on including the small Jewish section of the cemetery.

I am calling on you to communicate these concerns to the key individuals in your national leadership for action. Once conveyed I am sure Pakistani officials will enact careful measures to prevent further encroachment or decline in the current cemetery.

The Muslim culture has long been built on hospitality, stewardship, and community, with that in mind I hope you and your government's leadership continues to work with all their citizens to protect all cultures, religions, and races that are within your border.

The greatest honor that we the living can bestow on the dead is honorably remembering and preserving their history.

Respectfully, please keep me abreast of any developments with respect to the cemetery.

Sincerely,


Congressman Blake Farenthold