

Pakistaniaat: A Journal of Pakistan Studies Vol. 1, No. 2 (2009)

In Pakistan, where we still have to figure out the basics of law, politics and religion, blasphemy and laws regarding it could very well present one of the most decisive indicators of the future cultural and political direction of the state. By the same token, the crisis offers a chance to abandon the discourse of double standards and embrace the notion of the rights of every Pakistani *as a* Pakistani. In a country about which it is commonly asked whether it is possible to be both a non-Muslim and a Pakistani, perhaps a profound re-imagination of the nation itself is required.

Mehreen Zahra-Malik is News Editor, *The Friday Times*, and a graduate student in the United States. She can be reached at mehreen.tft@gmail.com