## BEFORE ELECTION COMMISSION OF PAKISTAN

Election petition No	2018
Muhammad Zeeshan Khan S/o Muhammad Naseem Akhtar Khan R/o Muhallah Wandhi Roshanwali (West) Tehsil & District Mianwali	
	PETITIONER
VERSUS	
Delimitation Committee of Election Commission of Pakistan Secretariat, Election House, Constitution Avenue G-5/2, Islamabad	
	RESPONDENT

## REPRESENTATION U/S 21 (2) OF ELECTIONS ACT 2017 READ WITH RULE 12 OF ELECTION RULES 2017

Respectfully Sheweth

- 1) That the petitioner is the resident of Muhallah Wandhi Roshanwali (West)Tehsil & District Mianwali. The respondent committee was formed by Election Commission of Pakistan for the purpose of delimitation of constituencies of National & Provincial Assemblies vide order No. F.8(2)/2018-Elec-I dated 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.
- 2) That on the recommendations of respondent the Election Commission of Pakistan vide notification dated 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 published preliminary delimitation report 2018 carrying new delimitation of constituencies in terms of section 21 of Elections Act 2017 and Rule 11 of Election Rules 2017 (hereinafter called the impugned report). It is submitted that in earlier elections District Mianwali comprised of two seats of National Assembly, i.e., NA-71 and NA-72, which according to new delimitation has become NA-95 and NA-96 respectively.

(2)

- 3) That the delimitation of areas in NA-95 and NA-96 made in the impugned report as published by Election Commission of Pakistan is against the principles laid down by Statutes and Superior Courts of Pakistan. The maps and division of areas recommended by the respondent is attached as **Annexure A**.
- 4) That the delimitation of areas of NA-95 and NA-96 are required to be amended according to the map and division of areas attached as Annexure
  B. The delimitation of areas in NA-95 and NA-96 as provided in the impugned report is null and void and liable to be amended as provided in Annexure B amongst others on the following:

## GROUNDS

- a) That the respondent committee has erred in delimiting NA-95 and NA-96 and has failed to follow the principles of delimiting as provided in section 20 of Elections Act 2017.
- b) That Rule 10 of Election Rules 2017 provides the procedure for making delimitation, which the respondent committee has failed to observe and thus created material irregularity in making the impugned report.
- c) That the respondent committee was required to take assistance for making proposal from local authorities so that the areas delimited must not infringe in any way the cultural, social and geographical genesis of the area. But no such assistance was taken.
- d) That the area of Mosa Khel which include the Mosa Khel City, Moza Bazar, Moza Sultanwala east, Moza Chhidru, Moza Abba Khel has been placed in NA-95, whereas, it has geographically, ethnically and culturally practical link with NA-96. Therefore it is highly impractical for inhabitants of the petitioner's area to access administration of NA-95 rather administration of NA-96. Including the above areas in NA- 95 by respondents is based on lack of information about the area.

(3)

- e) That the basic principle of delimitation is to divide the constituencies on the basis of population so that proper representation of people could be ensured in parliament. However in the impugned report population division, based on the 6<sup>th</sup> Population Census published on 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 2018, made by the respondent committee between NA-95 and NA-96 carries a difference of 69,000. Whereas the amendment in delimitation of areas suggested by the petitioner reduces the difference of population between NA-95 and NA-96.
- f) The respondent committee has ignored the compactness, contiguity and territorial unity of the areas in question, which is only possible through amendment suggested by the petitioner.
- g) That the delimitation made in the impugned report affects peoples' right of representation. The delimitation suggested by respondent in impugned report would promote gerrymandering and establish an unlawful political advantage to the local pressure groups. Such practice has been criticized by Division Bench of Sindh High Court in its judgement reported as 2014 CLC 335.
- h) That the impugned report suggested delimitation is against this natural geographical division of the area. Thus delimitation proposed by the petitioner is the correction essential for the division of constituencies in the area.
- i) That the area of Watta Khel Pakka, Gulmiri, Zalla North, Pathee and Noor Ullah due to its cultural heritage and geographical ethnicity has a natural link with NA-95. Before election of 1988 when Bhakar (District now) used to be a tehsil of MianwaliDistrict, this area was part of Mianwali I (NA-95 now). In 1982 Bhakar was made a separate distict

and during delimitation for election of 1988 to equate the population in Mianwali District between Mianwali I and Mianwali II, these areas under compulsion (in an unnatural alliance) were made part of Mianwali II (NA-96 now). The respondent committee without considering the historical background and factual data of the area has put these are in NA-96, which actually belongs to NA-95. Therefore by placing these areas in NA-96 the respondent committee has caused an error in delimitation process. It is submitted that respondent committee have never visited the area and it didn't had any knowledge about the cultural intricacies creating a balance in the locality. The ethnic culture of the said areas make it closely linked to NA-95, whereas it has been delimited in NA-96 by respondent committee. These areas must be placed in NA-95 to correct the error of delimitation made by respondent committee.

j) That the delimitation made in the impugned report if not amended as suggested by the petitioner in Annexure B would cause the petitioner an irreparable loss and injury.

## PRAYER

It is therefore most respectfully prayed that the delimitation of district Mianwali may kindly be amended according to the suggestions made in Annexure B of this petition.

Any other relief which this honorable commission may consider be also granted.

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Petitioner

Muhammad Zeeshan Khan S/o Muhammad Naseem Akhtar Khan R/o Muhallah Wandhi Roshanwali (West) Tehsil & District Mianwali