

By Ashish Kumar Sen

[http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/mar/2/pakistan-minister-murdered-for-criticism-of-islam-/](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/mar/2/pakistan-minister-murdered-for-criticism-of-islam/)

“With high-level champions of reform being gunned down for their stance, there will be no chance of reform,” said Nina Shea, commissioner on the **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)** in Washington.

Ms. Shea warned that extremists are gaining the upper hand.

“They are winning the battle for the soul of Pakistan,” she said.