

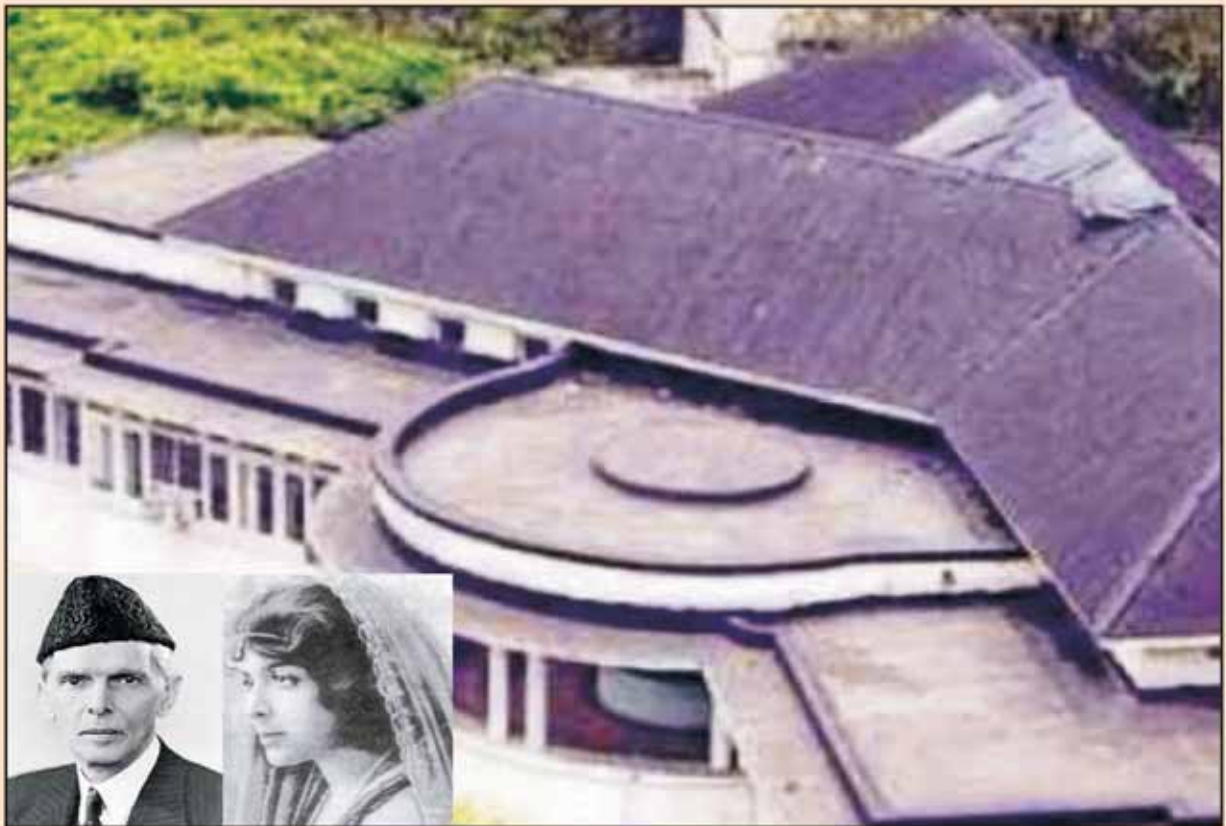
# REVIEW OF URDU PRESS

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December 16-31, 2018

## Mumbai's Jinnah House Handed over to Foreign Ministry



Jinnah and his Wife

Mumbai's Jinnah House

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## Summary

The bungalow of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan, in Mumbai has been an issue of dispute since the partition of the country. This bungalow was built by Jinnah in memory of his girlfriend, so he had emotional attachment with it. Jinnah's only daughter, Dina Wadia, went to court to get the possession of this bungalow. Now the Government of India has decided to hand over it to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Indian intelligence agencies have successfully destroyed a gang linked with ISIS, an Islamic militant organization. In this connection, ten persons have been arrested so far, whose leader is a Maulvi of a mosque in Amroha. The web of this gang was spread in many cities of Delhi and Western Uttar Pradesh.

After the Haryana government, the Uttar Pradesh government has also imposed ban on offering Namaz in the parks in Noida. Some extremist Muslim organizations have started targeting Yogi government on this. These organizations are planning to increase communal tension in Uttar Pradesh. Since the Yogi Government has come to power in Uttar Pradesh, the jihad of Muslim organizations continues in some form.

Muslim organizations are becoming active every day in South India. Kerala's infamous Jihadi organization Popular Front has set up its headquarters in Delhi and has started expanding in Northern India. Various extremist Muslim organizations in Karnataka have now decided to form a new coalition, the web of which is expanding across all the districts of the states. This kind of activism of Muslim organizations is a serious sign.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed, daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, has returned to power in recent elections in Bangladesh. Hasina Wajed shared friendly relations with India. When Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was murdered on the directions of Pakistan, at that time Hasina Wajed was abroad. To save the lives of her family, she had sought help from the Indian government and the Indian government had given her shelter. For a decade, she worked in Bangla cell of Akashwani. The victory of Sheikh Hasina came as a shock for both China and Pakistan. Pakistan has been trying to spread violence there with the help of Jamaat-e-Islami.

Pakistan's government has decided to give status of National Museum to paternal houses of late Prithviraj Kapoor and Dilip Kumar, the two Bollywood stars. It is clear that even today, Indian film stars are very popular in Pakistan.

**I**

## **Mumbai's Jinnah House Handed over to Foreign Ministry**

According to **Inquilab** (December 21, 2018), Foreign Ministry has decided to take Jinnah House, the residence of Pakistan's founder Mohammed Ali Jinnah, located in Malabar Hill, the most expensive region of south Mumbai, under its possession. This building will be used as guest house of government for foreign guests. The real name of this building is South Court, which is very beautiful and is a precious specimen of architecture. During the freedom struggle of the country in 1936, this building has been the center of many meetings between Mahatma Gandhi, Mohammad Ali Jinnah and Jawaharlal Nehru. External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj made the announcement to take the possession of Jinnah House. This building is currently under the supervision of PWD Department of Maharashtra Government. Earlier this bungalow was in control of the British High Commissioner from 1948 to 1983. His office and residence was situated here. The MLA of this area, Mangal Prabhat Lodha, wrote a letter to the government about Jinnah House, on which the External Affairs Minister replied that Jinnah House in Mumbai would be used for government guests like Delhi's Hyderabad House and in this regard appropriate action has been initiated. Jinnah House was built in 1936 and it is in front of the official residence of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, 'Varsha'. The legal dispute on its ownership between Government of India and Jinnah's daughter Dina Wadia is in court. In 2007, Dina Wadia filed a petition in the Bombay High Court, claiming this property. She died in London in November 2017. It is known that Jinnah House was built on two and a half acres of land in 1936 and it was designed by architect Claude Batley. Jinnah House is included in protected heritage buildings. Pakistan has repeatedly demanded Jinnah House for its consulate. But the government did not allow it.

According to **Dainik Sahafat** (December 21), the BJP MLA in his letter termed Jinnah House as the center of conspiracy for partition of the country and demanded that government should take it under its possession under the Enemy Property Act. He suggested that it should be developed as a cultural center but many organizations had demanded to demolish it. The BJP MLA had said that Jinnah stayed here for ten years and the plot of partition was made here. Therefore, the government should take this building in its jurisdiction.

In 2004, Pakistan's President General Pervez Musharraf had asked the then Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee that Indian government should hand over Jinnah House to Pakistan. The special thing is that Jinnah wrote a letter to Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru after the partition of the country, requesting that the Indian government should give Jinnah House to them because he likes Mumbai very much and he want to spend his last days of life here only.

According to **Hamara Samaj** (December 21), the Government of India has made it clear that Government of Pakistan has no right on Jinnah House in Mumbai. Foreign Ministry spokesman Ravish Kumar said that Pakistan is nowhere in this issue. Pakistan has no right on this property. He told reporters that the Pakistan government will have to stop claiming this property. This is a government property. The Government of India has decided to use it as a government guest house after its repair and maintenance. On the other hand, Pakistan's Foreign Ministry has said that Mumbai-based Jinnah House is an important part of the movement to build Pakistan. We have not left our claim on this. It is the property of Pakistan's founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah. This is our property. If there is a legal dispute, then Pakistan will definitely fight legal battle with India in the court. In the case of ownership of Jinnah House, there was a dispute between the Government of India and Dina Wadia. But Dina

Wadia has passed away. Dina Wadia's only son is Nusli Wadia, who is the one of the major industrialists in India. He is the owner of Bombay Dyeing.

### Comment

#### **Jinnah House was built for whom?**

The story of construction of Jinnah House, which has become the center of controversy for many decades, is also very interesting. It is said that this building was constructed by Mohammed Ali Jinnah for his beloved wife Rattanbai alias Ruttie Jinnah. Jinnah was generally considered to be a very jovial and tough man. But he also fell in love. According to historians, during the summer of 1916, Jinnah's client and India's richest person at that time, Sir Dinshaw Petit, offered him to spend summer holidays with him in Darjeeling. Jinnah met the 16-year-old daughter of Dinshaw, Ruttie, there only. The only daughter of the millionaire fell in love with Jinnah who was 25 years old than her. Sheela Reddy, who wrote a book on Mohammad Ali Jinnah, claims that when Sir Dinshaw Petit came to know that Jinnah is in lover the only intellectual and the most beautiful girl of that time, he was very angry and he immediately asked Jinnah to leave his house. After returning to Mumbai, when he came to know that the affair of Jinnah and her beloved daughter is still going on, he went to court and filed a petition in the Bombay High Court and took an injunction that till his daughter turns 18 years she can't meet Jinnah. But even this decision of court could not separate the two lovers for a long time. According to another biographer of Jinnah, Prof. Sharif al-Mujahid, as soon as Ruttie turned 18 on February 20, 1918, she ran away from his millionaire father's house and came to her love Jinnah with an umbrella and a pair of clothes. Jinnah took Ruttie to Jama Masjid where Ruttie accepted Islam and on April 18, 1918, she got married with Jinnah. However, Rs. 1,001 was fixed as the amount of meher but Jinnah gave Rs. 1.25 lakh to Ruttie, which was considered to be a huge amount at that time. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's sister Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit wrote in her autobiography, *The Scope of Happiness*, "I and Ruttie were of the same age. But both of us were raised in different ways. Jinnah was a prominent lawyer and an emerging leaders, therefore, Ruttie married Jinnah even after being from Parsi community and despite her father's opposition." It is said that Congress leader Sarojini Naidu also liked Jinnah. But Jinnah never gave importance to her. Jinnah and Ruttie went to the palace of King of Mahmudabad in Lucknow for honeymoon. Ruttie was extremely stubborn and blunt. There was a huge difference in the nature of both of them. Jinnah was very miser and used to spend each and every penny carefully. While Ruttie used to spend a lot. Jinnah had no time for the tantrums of his young wife and daughter. Jinnah's secretary and former Indian Education Minister M.C. Chagla has said in his autobiography 'Roses in December', "When he used to sit with Jinnah to prepare cases, Ruttie used to come and sit on his table and put pressure on him to go out with her. Jinnah used to nag his wife and gradually the distance between the two began to increase." It is said that Jinnah bought a plot at Mumbai's most expensive area, Malabar Hill on Ruttie's insistence and started constructing Jinnah House on it. It was built in three years. Ruttie, 'blue rose' couldn't bear Jinnah's negligence and she was very disturbed. On February 20, 1929, at the age of 29, Ruttie died in Jinnah's arms. Chagla has said in his autobiography, "To build the house of choice of his beloved, Jinnah spent his hard-earned money like water. Nine lakhs rupees were spent on the construction of Jinnah House that time and the marble of Italy was used. Ruttie had selected flowers of her choice in the garden." According to Chagla, when the body of Ruttie was buried and Jinnah was asked to perform last rituals, he cried like a baby. This was the first and last time when someone saw this stone-hearted person crying. This is the reason why Jinnah had a very emotional attachment with Jinnah House.

In his autobiography Babu Shree Prakash, the prominent Congress leader of India and the first High Commissioner of India in Pakistan wrote in his autobiography: "One evening, Jinnah called me and

requested me that his bungalow in Mumbai, Jinnah House, should not be taken from him. With tears in eyes he said that memories of her beloved wife Ruttie are there in this bungalow. That is why he is requesting the Government of India that the ownership of this bungalow should be given to him and he is ready to pay any price for that." According to official records, Jinnah had also written a personal letter to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, requesting him to hand over this bungalow. It is said that Pandit Nehru was ready to hand over this bungalow to Jinnah. But when this proposal reached the then Union Rehabilitation Minister Narhar Vishnu Gadgil, he protested against handing over this bungalow to Jinnah and said that this would lead to a wrong example. After this, Jinnah requested to Nehru repeatedly about it to Nehru about it. But when the Indian government was not ready for it, then Jinnah requested Nehru to respect his feelings and said that if he can be allowed to keep a tenant of his choice in this bungalow so that proper care can be taken of this bungalow. Nehru accepted this request of Jinnah. On the recommendation of Jinnah, the British High Commissioner to India was kept as tenant of this bungalow. Jinnah died during this time.

## II

### **Men and Women Can't Eat Together at a Function, It's Prohibited!**

According to **Inquilab** (December 19), Darul Uloom Deoband has issued a fatwa saying that men and women can't eat together at any function as it is prohibited. This fatwa is important because now-a-days men and women eat together in big gatherings or functions. It is said in the fatwa that eating food in standing position is illegal in Islam. A person had asked for a fatwa on men and women eating together at any function. Fatwa states that Muslims should avoid these two because it is not as per Islam and is against it. Standing and eating food in any marriage or anywhere is against Islamic culture and this fatwa also applied on those who organize such functions. In another fatwa, it is also forbidden to record someone's call on mobile without permission, and it has been said that it is a big crime. It is said in the fatwa that the conversation between each other is immaterial and it is absolutely wrong to record without permission and displaying it after recording it is also mischievous. Therefore, it is a great crime according to Islam which Muslims should avoid.

According to **Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 22), the Muftis issuing the fatwā of Darul Uloom Deoband have said that we have not received any notice from the Women's Commission. When we receive the notice, we will answer it legally. They said that no commission can make any changes in the Quran and Shariyat nor anybody has any right to interfere in the religious affairs of the Muslims. Maulana Ibrahim Kasmi said that the issue raised by selfish elements on fatwas is wrong and it is open interference in Islam. When the Supreme Court can't interfere in our case then how can any commission interfere? He told the Chairman of the Commission, Rekha Sharma that she should read the Supreme Court decision before taking any step. According to another fatwa published in the same newspaper, wearing wig is against Islam and if someone offers Namaz with wig it will not be accepted.

## III

### **Case against Chairman of Shia Waqf Board**

According to **Inquilab** (December 19), a campaign has been started by fundamentalist Muslims in various parts of the country against Chairman of Uttar Pradesh Shia Waqf Board, Waseem Rizvi. It is

known that Rizvi had suggested that the disputed land of the Babri Masjid should be given to the Hindus for the construction of the temple. Recently he made a movie, Ram Janmabhoomi, in which comments have been made on issues like Halala and Babri Masjid. Muslim organization Raza Academy did protested fiercely against it and tried to register an FIR against Rizvi in many police stations. But this could not be possible. Now on the pressure of Mohammad Saeed Noori, Manager of Raza Academy, a case has been registered against Rizvi in J.J. Marg Police station. Noori has demanded that the film called Ram Janmabhoomi should be banned and Waseem Rizvi should be arrested and sent to jail or else Muslims will start a campaign against him throughout the country.

According to **Akbar-e-Mashriq** (December 19), Waseem Rizvi, Chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Shia Wakf Board, has alleged that the leaders of the Muslim Personal Law Board are cheating the Muslims of the country in the Ram Mandir case. Rizvi said that in the recent meeting of the Muslim Personal Law Board, on one hand, it was said that they will accept the Supreme Court's decision in the Ram Temple case whereas on the other hand, the board refused to follow the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Triple Talaq. He said in a statement that the president of the Muslim Personal Law Board, Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadvi, is sitting on the tainted history of Babri Masjid like a snake to save it. Therefore, in the case of Ram Mandir, the Board is not ready for any compromise. People of this board are the puppet of Congress. This board was created by Congress only in 1971 and since then, it continues to mislead the Muslims on the religious matters to fulfill political interests. The Board has introduced its extremist mindset by refuting the agreement on the matter of Ram Mandir. The aim of the board is to win the Babri Masjid case and create riots across the country. He said that the Shia Waqf Board had sent a draft of an agreement to the Muslim Personal Law Board a month ago, in which it is been said that it should do an agreement with the Hindu community on constructing Ram Mandir in Ayodhya and Masjid-e-Aman in Lucknow. But the Muslim Personal Law Board cancelled it. Now these extremist Muslims are not ready for any compromise. He said that the Uttar Pradesh Shia Waqf Board is in favor of the Ram Mandir.

## IV

### New Muslim Organization in Karnataka

According to **Dawat** (December 22), to protect Muslim interests in Karnataka, an active Muslim organization, Rabta-e-Millatt, should be made. The newspaper has claimed that the total population of Karnataka is 5 crore 60 lakh and the proportion of Muslims is 13 percent. Many Muslim organizations including Tablighi Jamaat, Jamaat-e-Islami Hind, Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat, Jamiat Ahle Hadees, Jamiat Ulema Hind, Milli Council, Khadam al-Muslimeen, Jamiat al-Quresh, Jamaat Madaviya, SIO and SSF etc. are quite active in the state are. In the past, after the arrest of Muslim youths in Karnataka, there was a fear of atmosphere, therefore Jamaat-e-Islami decided to establish unity forum in every district for the protection and advancement of the Muslims. In 2016, a conference of all Muslim organizations in Bengaluru was organized in which more than 75 Muslim thinkers participated in addition to the representatives of these organizations. After this, it was decided that to bring all Muslim organizations on one platform, a new organization named Rabt-e-Millat should be formed which will protect the lives, respectability and fundamental rights of Muslims. For this, a board was formed in which Ameer Shariyat of Karnataka Maulana Mufti Ashraf Ali Baqavi, Maulana Mufti Shabiullah Khan, Manager of Masihi Uloom, Maulana Mufti Iftikhar Ahmad Kasmi, Mohammad Atar Ullah Sharif, Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami, Haji Ameer Jaan, Ahle Sunnat Jamaat, Maulana Ejaz Ahmad Nadvi, Milli Council, Maulana Masood Imran Rasheedi, Imam of Jamia Masjid, Bengaluru, Maulana



Syed Abdul Qadir Wahid, Imam of Masjid Sunnat Jamaat, Maulana Haneef Afsar Azeezi, Maulana Shabbir Ahmad Nadvi, Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Wahiduddin Khan Umri, Jamaat-e-Islami, Maulana Shamsool Haq, Chairman of Sunni Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Jeen Abdul Deen, Darul Uloom, Shah Waliullah, Maulana Abdul Rahim Rashidi, Maulana Abid Khundmiri, Jamat-e-Madviya. Apart from this, a working committee was also formed in which Jamiat-e-Ulema, Jamiat-e-Ahle Hadees, Milli Council, Sunni Ulema, Khadam-e-al-Muslimeen, Tablighi Jamaat, SIO, Jamiat-al-Quresh and representatives of Mosque Federation were included. The newspaper has claimed that after the efforts of the last three years, district branches of Rabt-e-Millat organization have been established in 24 districts out of 30 districts of the state. Muslim Mutahida Council in Bijapur, Muslim Mutahida Mohaz in Shimoga, Muslim O Kota in Udupi and Central Muslim Committee in Mangalore were already present in four districts. Now the efforts made to unite Muslims in entire Karnataka have been successful. Maulana Tauqeer Raza Khan, Maulana Abid Ur Azmi have made special efforts to unite Muslims. A camp of four thousand Muslim youth was organized in Bidar in which they were given training. An event of the Muslim organizations of all the districts was organized in Bangalore where every district officials presented their activities.

## V

### Prohibition on Offering Namaz in Parks

According to **Inquilab** (December 26), the Yogi Government of Uttar Pradesh has imposed a ban on offering Namaz in the parks of Noida. Station office of police station of Sector 58 has issued a notice to the private companies of the area and informed them that any kind of religious activity has been banned by the administration in the parks of Sector 58. This includes Namaz also. It has been said in the notice that it has often been seen that your company's Muslim workers come to the park and offer Namaz. Now I have been directed that they should not be allowed to offer Namaz in the parks. It is expected from you that you will direct all your employees not to go to the park to offer Namaz. Despite this if anyone comes here to offer Namaz then you will be responsible. On the other hand, the Police Captain and the District Magistrate have claimed that ban on offering Namaz in the parks has been imposed as per the Supreme Court directive. The Supreme Court has stated in its decision in 2009 that no religious activity can be organized at any public place without permission. The police claim that this step has been taken so that the religious atmosphere is not spoilt before the 2019 general elections. Commenting on the Uttar Pradesh government's decision, Congress spokesman Meem Afzal has said that this decision is absolutely wrong. He said that earlier the Khattar government has also imposed similar restrictions in Haryana. The way companies have been notified is extremely embarrassing. He said that I am surprised that in the country where roads are blocked for fifteen days on the name of Kanwar Yatra then what is the need to impose ban on offering Namaz? He said that there is a ban on the construction of a mosque. Now where will Muslims go to offer Namaz? He has alleged that this is happening for the polarization of votes in the elections of 2019, because the development agenda has completely failed. Mohammed Salim Ansari, another former parliamentarian of Bahujan Samaj Party, said that this decision is absolutely wrong and it is a conspiracy to malign the environment of the country. Imam of Jama Masjid Fatehpuri, Dr. Mufti Mukarram Ahmad has said that according to Shariyat, if a landowner does not allow them to offer Namaz on their land Muslims should not pray there. Deputy Chief of Jamiat-e-Ulema, Uttar Pradesh, Mufti Ashfaq Ahmed said that no one has any right to impose ban on offering Namaz at public places. But if the government imposes a ban, then it should not be done. Dr. Qasim Rasool Ilyas, Member of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, said

that this decision is absolutely wrong. If the government is imposing ban on offering Namaz in the parks, then it should provide an alternative place for the same.

In the same issue **Dainik Inquilab** has alleged in its editorial that a section in this country wants to destroy the Ganga Jamuni Culture of this country. The newspaper has written that a few months ago, the saffron brigade created a ruckus about offering Namaz in the parks of Gurugram. On this, the police stopped Muslims from offering Namaz and then 37 such places were marked where Muslims could offer Namaz. Of these, 22 places were of the Waqf Board and Idgah while 13 parks were public property. As far as Noida is concerned, for the past four to five years, Muslims were praying in the parks there, but suddenly Noida police banned them. Everyone has the right to public property.

**Dainik Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 29) alleging the government has published a news as a main news that to stop Muslims from offering Namaz in the parks have deliberately filled the water in the parks of Noida. A large number of police forces were deployed to stop prayers. Commenting on the incident, former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mayawati said that BJP has been doing such things so as to hide its failures. Congress leader Sampooranand has written a letter to the Uttar Pradesh Police Director-General OP Singh to ban the RSS Shakhnas in Noida.

## VI

### Cobweb of Dreaded Jihadi Organization

According to **Siyasat** (26 December), National Investigation Agency and Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) of Uttar Pradesh have arrested 16 suspects after raiding 17 cities of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Of these, six persons were released later. According to the National Investigation Agency spokesman, this organization was planning to strike on Republic Day on several other places including the country's capital. The spokesperson also said that an organization called Harkat-ul-Harb-e-Islam was formed with the inspiration of the Islamic State. The inspiration was given by a person living in Dubai. It is said that the leader of this group was an Imam of a mosque. The police presented them in court and took their remand for twelve days. They are searching for their other companions also.

According to **Inquilab** (January 1), intelligence agencies have later detained many more terrorists from Amroha and several other areas, who are being questioned. No official announcement has been made about these arrests and gangs. According to the Inspector-General of Police of the National Investigation Agency, Alok Mittal, a large amount of explosive material, a dozen of guns and a rocket launcher were recovered from the people caught. 20 alarm clocks were recovered from them which they used to make bombs. Over one hundred SIM cards and mobile have been recovered from them. Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti has alleged that these arrests have been made for polarization of votes in the coming elections.

**Inquilab** (December 27), commenting on these arrests, said that we can't say whether these people are guilty or innocent but in the past we have seen that the people arrested by police on the charges of terrorism are acquitted by court as innocent. Importantly all the arrests took place when the secular parties are governing the nation. The innocent people arrested on false charges spend their whole life in jail. When they came out, no government takes the account of their tears. Investigation agencies have claimed that the people arrested belong to the organization Harkat-ul-Harb-e-Islam. The name of this organization was never heard before.

Prior to this, a lot of people were arrested in the name of Indian Mujahiddin. But now this name is not been heard. The name of the Muslims was related to terrorism after the martyrdom of the Babri Masjid. It started with the blasts in Mumbai in March 1993. But after the name of Abhinav Bharat came out, it was known that people like Sadhvi Pragya Thakur and Colonel Purohit were doing this to blame Muslims for defaming them. It is also certain that the explosive used in these explosions, RDX, is not found in the explosive market and can be obtained from abroad or army only. But the recent explosives recovered from them are some other explosive apart from RDX. As far as the recent arrests are concerned, the dispute of the temple-mosque is being repeated once again in the country. Muslims are being made a victim of mob lynching. Therefore it is possible that some people might have taken the path of terrorism because of anger. However, terrorism is against Islam.

According to **Hamara Samaj** (December 28), seven youths were arrested in a raid at Jafarabad area of Delhi, two of which were released later. The family members of the accused have alleged that the people who conducted raid took away all the books of Urdu and Quran from their homes with them. Hafiz Ahmed, father of Imam Sohail, told that he makes battery and the intelligence agencies took all the equipment used for making battery and all the mobile phones have also been seized. The family member of other accused, Zafar, living at the main road of Jafarabad makes jackets. The intelligence agencies took a lot of jackets with them. The intelligence agencies also took away cash amount of five lakh kept in their home.

According to **Inquilab** (December 28), many organizations like Jamiat-e-Ulema, Jamaat-e-Islami and All India Muslim Ekta Committee, met the families of the persons arrested and assured them of full support. Haji Mohammad Yunus, president of the Aam Aadmi Party's minority cell, claimed that the people arrested don't have any connection with any terrorist organization.

According to **Dainik Sahafat** (December 28), Maulana Mahmood Madani of the Jamiat-e-Ulema, said that their organization will provide free legal aid to the people who have been arrested. He claimed that those who have been arrested are poor so it has been decided that apart from legal aid they will also be provided financial help.

According to **Inquilab** (December 30), militants went up to the tomb of Jama Masjid in Srinagar and raised flag of terrorist organization ISIS. On this occasion, slogans were also raised in support of Islam and ISIS in the mosque. A video of this incident was made and made viral. The youth who flagged the flag were masked.

## I

### Sheikh Hasina Comes Back to Power in Bangladesh

According to **Inquilab** (January 1, 2019), Sheikh Hasina Wajed has taken over the reins of power for the fourth time in Bangladesh. However, opposition parties have alleged that she had manipulated the elections results to regain power. Election Commission Secretary, Halaluddin, while announcing the results, said that the Awami League and its allies have won 288 out of 300 seats in the Parliament whereas the Opposition parties have got only 6 seats. It is known that 71-year-old Sheikh Hasina has been in power in Bangladesh for a decade. She is the daughter of Bangladesh's first President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, whose family was murdered. She was the leader of opposition from 1986 to 1988, from 1991 to 1996, and from 2001 to 2006. She has been the Prime Minister of Bangladesh from 1996 to 2000, 2009 to 2014 and 2014 to 2018. Since 1981 she is the President of Bangladesh Awami League. While the opposition parties have alleged that she has kept all their opposition leaders in jail on false accusations. Her main opponent and head of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, Khaleda Zia is serving a 17-year imprisonment on corruption charges. The United States and the United Nations have expressed doubts over the transparency of elections, while the patronage organizations of human rights have alleged that Sheikh Hasina is acting as a dictator. Already 47 candidates of the alliance of opposition parties had announced their separation from the election before the end of the poll by accusing of fraud and threatening them. In the elections, at least 20 people have been killed and many injured in the clashes in different cities of Bangladesh. It has been accused that hundreds of workers of opposition parties have also been arrested. On the day of voting, the broadcast of Internet services and private news channels of Bangladesh was banned and journalists were arrested in large numbers in the country.

**Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 30) has welcomed the general elections held in Bangladesh in its editorial and hoped that India's relations with Bangladesh will remain friendly. The newspaper said that since China is expanding its footprint in Bangladesh and to stop China from doing the same India had to change its policy on Bangladesh. After the Narendra Modi government came to power, new golden age of relations between the two countries has begun. Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party, which has been out of power since 2006, had formed another National Integration Front with the former military dictator General Irshad's Jatiya party, Jamaat-e-Islami and other opposition parties, but this attempt failed, and Sheikh Hasina was successful again in winning back power. The special thing is that there was no ill promotion against India in this election. Efforts should be made to improve relations between the two countries.

**Comment:** Most Urdu newspapers in the country did not give importance to the elections in Bangladesh. Sahafat (January 1) published it as a two-column news, whereas Roznama Rashtriya Sahara and other Urdu newspapers published it on the inside pages.

## II

### Nawaz Sharif Sentenced for Seven Years

According to **Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 25), former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has been sentenced to seven years in Al-Azizia case and he has been imposed a fine of two and a half crore

dollars. However, he has been acquitted of the flagship case. Judge Arshad Malik sentenced him in the court. After this he was arrested. There were thousands of supporters of Nawaz Sharif Muslim League on this occasion who pelted stones at the police. Nawaz Sharif appeared before the court 130 times in this case. He appeared for 70 times in front of Judge Mohammad Bashir and 60 times in front of Arshad Malik. In the flagship case, earlier he was sentenced for 10 years but later the Islamabad High Court turned down this decision. The anti-corruption department of Pakistan has alleged that Nawaz Sharif collected benami property on his sons name and he bought Al-Azizia steel mill in Qatar. In addition to this, he provided funds to his son Hassan Nawaz to run business and buy flat. Only fifteen lawyers were allowed to enter the court. Thousands of workers were gathered outside the court, who were raising slogans in favor of Nawaz Sharif. To maintain peace, 1000 personnel of Pakistan Police were deputed. Nawaz Sharif told reporters that he did not do anything wrong and he was framed for political reasons. He accused the current rulers of Pakistan that they are deliberately targeting their opponents to polish their political career. The court has also instructed to seize all properties of Nawaz Sharif and issued warrants to arrest of both his sons.

According to **Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 26), decision against Nawaz Sharif has received mixed reactions in Pakistan. The political sectors claim that the Anti-Corruption Department will now target many Pakistani leaders while opposition leaders of Pakistan have alleged that Nawaz Sharif has been made a scapegoat on the backdrop of political revenge. Police has arrested Nawaz Sharif and sent him to Adiala jail. Former Balochistan chief minister Abdul Malik said that the decision against Nawaz Sharif has weakened democracy in Pakistan, so Pakistanis should unite to save democracy.

### III

#### **Death Sentence to Those Who Attacked on School in Peshawar**

According to **Inquilab** (December 17), 15 terrorists have been sentenced to death in connection with a terrorist attack on an army public school four years ago in Peshawar. Their sentence has been confirmed by Pakistan Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa. It is known that 150 people were killed in this attack, mostly children. According to a press release of army, 20 people have been given the punishment of different periods besides the death penalty of 15 people.

According to **Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 23), Pakistani army chief Qamar Javed Bajwa has confirmed the execution of fourteen terrorists. They were accused of attacking soldiers and police and killing civilians. They had killed 13 soldiers and three civilians and 119 people were injured. Arms and ammunition were recovered from these terrorists. The special court has sentenced them to death. Those who are being given death sentence are related to terrorist organizations. Notably, this is the third occasion in a month when the army chief of Pakistan has confirmed the death sentence of fourteen persons.

### IV

#### **Agreement among Afghanistan, Pakistan and China**

According to **Etemaad** (December 16), an agreement has been signed in the conference of Foreign Ministers of the three countries in Kabul, in which discussion about peace, regional unity and stability in Afghanistan happened. Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that Chinese

Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Afghan Foreign Minister Salahuddin Rabbani have participated in this discussion. It has been decided in this discussion that three countries will try to increase the abolition of terrorism and to increase regional cooperation. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani was also present on this occasion. The aim of this tripartite conference is to find a solution of stable peace in Afghanistan. In the first phase of the discussion, agreement with the Afghan Taliban, an active terrorist organization in Afghanistan, was initiated, while in the second phase, it will be considered to increase security relations and to increase mutual cooperation between the three countries. The political, civil and military officials of the three countries participated in this discussion. Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that the initiative taken by China will keep the environment good. Both China and Pakistan want the welfare, development, peace and stability of Afghanistan. Before this, there has been a conference of Foreign Ministers of these three countries in China. Qureshi said that Pakistan wants complete elimination of terrorism and wants to strengthen the border security of both countries. We also want to exchange intelligence information with each other.

According to **Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 20) peace talks between Afghanistan, the Taliban and the United States are going to start in the United Arab Emirates. The United States has demanded that in the first phase of peace establishment in Afghanistan, ceasefire should be declared for six months, while the Taliban has demanded that the US should release all prisoners of Taliban before this announcement. According to sources, the US and NATO forces want to withdraw from Afghanistan, respectively. After this, the administration and security situation in Afghanistan will be discussed. According to the Afghan Foreign Ministry, Pakistan is also taking a special interest in the success of the dialogue between the two.

Commenting on the US and Afghan Taliban talks, Jamaat-e-Islami's mouthpiece **Dawat** (December 22) has said in its editorial that talks between the US and Afghan Taliban are crucial for establishing peace in Afghanistan. It has been organized by Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates. According to Voice of America, the American delegation is been led by Zalmay Khalilzad while representatives of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates are also participating in this dialogue. The United States had appointed Khalilzad as special ambassador to establish peace in Afghanistan and before that Khalilzad and the Afghan representatives have met on three occasions and twice in Qatar. This series of talks has started after the conference in Moscow. Pakistan said that it is endeavoring to establish peace in Afghanistan with the help of the World Community. The important question is why is the US interested in initiating talks with militant organization, Taliban? Actually, the US wants to bring out Afghanistan out of the complex dispute and withdraw its forces from there. It wants to end the huge expenditure on the army deployed in Afghanistan. At the same time, it also wants to destroy the safe haven of the terrorist organization Taliban in Afghanistan.

According to **Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 22), talks between the US and Afghanistan Taliban in Abu Dhabi have ended without any formal announcement. Only Afghan Taliban has issued a statement in this matter which has claimed that discussions have happened about recalling the American soldiers from Afghanistan. But no agreement has happened on the ceasefire. The Taliban said that it is in favor of continuing this dialogue further. It seems that there has been no concrete result of the talks. The special representative of the US, Khalilzad said while giving an interview to Afghanistan's government agency in Kabul that he is still not able to understand that whether the Afghan Taliban really wants peace? He said that the Afghan government is keen to end the war that is going on for seventeen years. But it is yet not clear whether the Taliban wants this too? We have to still wait and try to establish peace before the Presidential elections in Afghanistan in April next year. He made it clear that the United States wanted that there should be an agreement with the Taliban about peace in Afghanistan, but the Taliban was not ready to discuss it directly with the Afghan government.

The Taliban said that the Afghan government has been imposed by the US. So they will not talk to this puppet government. They will talk to the US directly. While America wants that Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Pakistan should force Taliban and make them talk with the Afghan government. The US had suggested a ceasefire for three months in the meeting in Abu Dhabi but in this context, the Taliban refused to give any acceptance and said that they will take any decision on this after discussing with their high command.

## V

### **Recalling American Troops will Make No Difference**

According to **Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 23), the Afghan government is not giving special importance to the announcement made by US President Donald Trump about the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan. Official sources say that the Afghan government and the army are in a position to protect the country on their own. According to government sources, US government spokespersons have indicated that the US President is considering to recall seven thousand soldiers out of fifteen thousand soldiers stationed in Afghanistan. In addition to this, there are twenty thousand Nato soldiers, whose are there to train the Afghan army so that they can withstand the IS and Taliban terrorism.

Afghan government spokesman Fazal Fazli said that the withdrawal of some thousand foreign soldiers from the country will not affect the problem of Afghanistan. According to the American plan, the withdrawal of US troops will begin from next month, while the rest of the army will be removed from there later. American commanders are in the dilemma of whether the Afghan army will be able to withstand the terrorists after the withdrawal of US troops? NATO spokesperson, on the other hand, said NATO would continue its mission in Afghanistan. It will be our endeavor that Afghanistan does not emerge as the center of terrorists who keep giving us threats.

## VI

### **Preparation to buy Ancestral Homes of Prithviraj Kapoor and Dilip Kumar**

According to **Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 23), the government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Pakistan has decided to purchase 25 properties, which have been named as a national heritage. These include the ancestral homes of renowned film stars of Hindi films Prithviraj Kapoor and Dilip Kumar. Prithviraj Kapoor's ancestral house is famous by the name of Kapoor Haveli and it is situated in the Qissa Khawani Bazaar of Peshawar. It was built by Prithviraj Kapoor's father Dewan Basheswarnath Kapoor during 1918-1922. Raj Kapoor and his uncle Trilok Kapoor were born in this building. Government has declared it a national asset. As far as Dilip Kumar alias Yusuf Khan is concerned, his ancestral house is also in this area. This hundred year old house is also in bad shape. The Nawaz Sharif government declared it a national asset in 2014.

## I

### Announcement to Recall the US Troop from Syria

According to **Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 21), US President Donald Trump has claimed that the US has won war against Islamic militant, IS, in Syria, so the United States has decided to withdraw its troops from Syria. His announcement was unpredictable for U.S. military and diplomatic areas. After this announcement, hot discussion started in social media as well as mainstream media, against which the White House and the military headquarters Pentagon had to issue explanations. A White House spokesperson said that the campaign against Islamic State is going to enter the second phase. Therefore, the US has started withdrawing its troops from Syria. The spokesperson made it clear that the Islamic State might have been defeated but the army's campaign in Syria is not being ended. The US Defense Ministry said that the territories of the US in Syria have been freed by the US forces but the campaign against the terrorists has not ended yet. After this explanation, Trump released another video, in which he also announced the recalling of US troops deployed in Syria, claiming victory against the Islamic State. The US president said that we have completely defeated the Islamic State and our soldiers are coming back. We have won. But military sources have refused to say how much time will it take to remove US forces in Syria? An American spokesperson said that after the decision to recall the troops, their withdrawal may take two to three months. The spokesperson acknowledged that the Islamic State militants are gathering in the north eastern region of Syria. Action is being taken by the US military to disperse them there. The United States believes that Malaysia, which is present in Syria, will finish off the last fort of Islamic State with the help the US Army. Currently, there are two thousand American soldiers in Syria who are supporting the United States ally Syrian Democratic Forces and Kurdish warriors in the war with Islamic State. They also have the support of the Air Force. The American media say that so far the jihadis have not been completely eliminated from Syria. According to another news, the Israeli Prime Minister has said that they will consider the withdrawal of US troops from Syria and its impact on Israel and Israel's security will be maintained at all costs.

## II

### Grant of Three Billion Dollars to Pakistan

According to **Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 22), the United Arab Emirates has announced to grant three billion dollars to Pakistan from Abu Dhabi Development Fund to remove the foreign currency crisis in Pakistan. This money will soon be transferred to the State Bank of Pakistan. It has been said that the fund is being given to Pakistan because we share old friendship with Pakistan. Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, thanked the UAE, said that this would help Pakistan recover from the financial crisis. He said that a new era of friendship between the United Arab Emirates and Pakistan will start. It is known that at this time Pakistan has a financial crisis of twelve billion dollars. In this connection, he has sought cooperation from different countries. Saudi Arabia has previously announced to grant three billion dollars to Pakistan and pay three billion dollars of payment of oil later. However, Pakistan has so far received two billion dollars from Saudi Arabia. Now there is the possibility of giving one billion dollars more to Pakistan.



### III

#### Parliament of Palestine Dissolved

According to **Roznama Rashtriya Sahara** (December 24) Palestinian Authority chief Mahmoud Abbas has dissolved the Palestinian Parliament and has announced parliamentary election in the country in the next six months. President Abbas said that this decision has been taken on the instruction of the court which has ordered to conduct parliamentary elections in the country. While addressing the convention in Ramallah, a city in Jordan, he said that we have rejected the Americans. But we are silent. We are not going to obey the Americans. No deal will be done in the name of Jerusalem. Because it is the capital of the Palestinian tribe since time immemorial. We will not tolerate the atrocities of the Israelis, nor do we have any hope from America. He said that we welcome the attempt of Egypt of establishing unity on behalf of various groups of Palestinians. It is said that Turkey's President Erdoğan has suggested transferring of the embassies of several Arab countries to Jerusalem.

### IV

#### Embassy of United Arab Emirates in Syria

According to **Inquilab** (December 28), the UAE has announced to open its embassy in Syria after seven years. All necessary preparations have been completed in this regard. Notably, after the civil war broke out in Syria in 2011, the United Arab Emirates had closed its embassy in Damascus. According to the Information Minister of Syria, the United Arab Emirates has taken this decision to increase its relations with Bashar al-Assad. Invitations have been sent to the journalists on behalf of the Ministry of Information to participate in the opening ceremony of this Embassy. It is known that US President Donald Trump has recently announced to withdraw troops from Syria.

### V

#### America Won't Recall its Troops from Iraq

According to **Inquilab** (December 28), US president Donald Trump suddenly arrived in Iraq and announced there that America has no intention to recall its troops from Syria. This is Trump's first ever tour to war-affected area after the announcement of the withdrawal of US troops. Trump met with the soldiers in Iraq and celebrated Christmas with them. Notably, Trump had said that sending troops to Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria was a big mistake and recently announced to withdraw 14 thousand US soldiers from Afghanistan and three thousand US soldiers from Syria. The American president said that if there is a need to initiate war against ISIS, Iraq can be used as a military base. These days America is under economic crisis and eight lakh government employees have not been able to pay their salaries even during the Christmas. According to another news, due to US and Iraq differences, the talks between Iraq's Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi and President of the US have been canceled. It is said that the US President wanted to hold a talk with Iraq's Prime Minister but the Iraqi Prime Minister was not ready to meet him. An official spokesperson of Iraq said that the meeting has been canceled due to differences. According to the spokesman, the US President had a conversation with the Iraqi Prime Minister about recalling the soldiers from Syria and then the Iraqi Prime Minister had offered him a visit to Iraq. President Trump and his wife visited the American cantonments of Iraq.

## VI

### **Resignation of Education Minister of Iraq**

According to **Inquilab** (December 31), Iraq's education minister Shaima Al-Hayali has resigned from her post after being accused of having relations with Jihadi organization ISIS. Notably, the President of the Patron Committee of victims of Islamic terrorism in Iraq has alleged that when the Islamic State captured Mosul, this woman had relations with this terrorist organization. He also said that the brother of Shaima Al-Hayali is a Commander of ISIS. Notably, this woman was nominated for the post of minister on behalf of Al-Banna Ekta. This coalition included two factions of Al Fatah and State of Law. Al Hayali said that she has no relation with any terrorist organization and she has not worked with any group or organization. Notably, the Iraqi Parliament confirmed the appointment of Shaima Al-Hayali, on December 22. According to a viral video on social media, his brother, Laith al-Hayali, is associated with this organization and he is the director of a department.

## I

**75 % of Islamabad Girls Student get Addicted to Drugs**

According to **Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (December 23), Pakistan's Home Minister Shehryar Khan Afridi has claimed in a statement that 75 percent of girls and 55 percent of boys students studying in schools of Islamabad use drugs. After this statement, teachers and other social organizations have refused to accept his data. Afridi claimed that this conclusion came after a secret survey conducted by an organization recently. School managers claim that the use of drugs in students is increasing rapidly but it is difficult to claim that how many percent of children use drugs. Pakistan's Social Affairs Minister Shireen Mazari says that it is true that the number of drug addicts has increased by 70 percent, but it is difficult to say that 75 percent of girl students use drugs. Dr. Sadaqat Ali of the organization which is running a campaign against drug use in Pakistan has said that the figures of the Home Minister are wrong. In October 2016, the Senate Standing Committee presented a report of South Asian Study Institute, which stated that 400 children studying in 40 schools in Islamabad use drugs. Students of private schools are addicted to drugs excessively. Over there almost 53 percent of children are addicted to drugs while this is only two percent in government schools. According to this report, six types of drugs are used by the children. According to another source, drugs, to which children are getting addicted to, are coming from Afghanistan to Pakistan in huge quantities.

## II

**Opposition to Enact Law for Construction of Ram Mandir**

According to **Inquilab** (December 17, 2018), the meeting of All India Muslim Personal Law Board was held under the chairmanship of Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadvi. After the meeting, Muslim Personal Law Board spokesman Zafaryab Jilani told reporters that if a law was made about building Ram Mandir in Parliament or if the government decides to bring an ordinance, then it will be challenged in the Supreme Court. Jilani said that we have full confidence in the judiciary. While Kamal Farooqui said that the communalism that is being spread by some people on this issue in this country can't be ignored and should be answered. Qasim Rasool Ilyas said that after the court's decision in the Bommai case, it is not possible to bring an ordinance, but if an ordinance is brought from the back door, then the board will fight it legally. Jilani said that the manner in which communalism is spreading under the guise of Ram Mandir is extremely dangerous for the country and the Supreme Court should stop it. He said that in this context, we had tried to attract the attention of the Supreme Court on the statements made by the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and other leaders of Uttar Pradesh. The court says that do not present such cases to us. We are not going to be influenced by this. Dr. Syed Qasim Rasul Ilyas, Chairman, Welfare Party of India said that the effort of establishing Sharai courts across the country has been welcomed by the Muslims of the country. This will also reduce the burden on the country's judicial system. He said that currently 14 new Sharai courts have been set up in the country and will be expanded soon. He said that if the government passes a law about Triple Talaq, then it is interfering in religious matters of the Muslims and it will be challenged in the Supreme Court. He said that we are meeting the MPs of different parties to make them aware about the perspective of the Muslims on

Triple Talaq. He said that on the behalf of the Women's Department of the board, the conferences of Muslim Women have been organized across the country in which so far 2 crore women have participated. In these conferences, it has been clearly stated that if any law was made against Triple Talaq, then it will be against the Constitution and women will protest against it. In the coming months, more than two dozen seminars will be organized in this regard.

According to **Akhbar Mashriq** (December 15), Rabey Hasani Nadvi claimed that currently sixty new Sharai courts have been started and their number will be increased further soon.

### III

#### **Muslim Dominated Country Declared to Form an Army**

According to **Inquilab** (December 16), Kosovo, a Muslim-dominated country of Europe, has announced that it will form an army of its own, which has created a restlessness in neighboring country Serbia. Notably, after the decade of civil war, the Kosovo region of Muslim population of Serbia had announced the separation from Serbia on February 18, 2008, and announced its independence. But Serbia and some other countries did not recognize to Kosovo. According to the Dawn newspaper, Kosovo Parliament has decided that it will make its army to protect its international borders. The Kosovo security force, which is five thousand as of now, will be given military status. Serbia has criticized this decision. Muslims are expressing happiness over this. They say that it is extremely important to have an army to protect Islam. Serbia, NATO and the European Union have criticized this decision. It is important to note that the US has supported this decision.

### IV

#### **Sufi Sandesh Aman Yatra**

According to **Sahafat** (December 22, 2018), the convoy of Sufi Sandesh Aman Yatra reached Delhi under the leadership of Anjuman Saiyadjadgan and Anjuman Yadgar officials from Ajmer Sharif Dargah of the great Sufi saint Moinuddin Chishti. Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi congratulated those who participated in Aman Yatra and did Jiyarat of the Chadhar (sheet) to be presented at the mazar of Charar-e-Sharif of Hajrat Nuruddin Nurani. On this occasion, Naqvi prayed for peace and prosperity on the occasion and hoped that this Aman Yatra will promote peace, brotherhood, development and social harmony in the country and India will become a better India. He said that brotherhood is the belief of India and it is a part of our culture. He also thanked both the organizations related to the Ajmer Sharif Dargah and said that this visit will encourage peace, brotherhood, love and peace among human beings in Kashmir. On this occasion, Dargah Committee Chairman Amin Pathan thanked the people associated with the dargah. This Chadhar (sheet) will be offered at the Dargah of Charar-e-Sharif in Kashmir. He said that the unity and goodness of the country can be protected by the message of Sufis in today's situation. On this occasion Syed Basheeruddin Chishti, Syed Afsan Chishti, Syed Fazal Moin Chishti and Dr. Majid Chishti also expressed happiness over the visit and said that the message of peace by Sufis and their education is extremely important looking at the situation of Kashmir. Dargah Committee chairman Amin Pathan said that he is reaching

Kashmir with the message of peace given by Sufis. On this occasion Sufi Ajmal Nizami of Dargah Nizamuddin Auliya was also present.

According to **Dainik Sahafat** (December 24), the Sufi Sandesh Aman Yatra traveled from the Ajmer Sharif Dargah and finally reached Charar-e-Sharif of Kashmir Valley. Here, it reached Hazrat Nuruddin Dargah of and a beautiful golden Chadar (sheet) brought from Dargah of Ajmer Sharif was presented here. On this occasion a special prayer was offered for peace in Jammu and Kashmir. Hamad Nizami offered Fatiha. Dargah Committee chairman Amin Pathan presented blessings from Ajmer Sharif to the people of Charar-e-Sharif's dargah. He said that today everyone wants peace in the Kashmir valley. A special gate was also organized on this occasion.

## V

### **Zakat Foundation Can Make Muslim Record in UPSC**

According to **Hamara Samaj** (December 21), the Union Public Service Commission has announced the results of written examinations. Zakat Foundation which made a record in the Central Government jobs last year in 2017 is ready to make record this year also. According to the newspapers, in 2018, six lakh candidates across the country gave examination for the Central Government's Civil Services. Ten thousand of them have been successful. Of these, nearly two thousand were Muslim. These candidates will be interviewed in February next year. Due to the efforts of Muslim organizations, there has been a huge increase in the number of Muslim candidates in UPSC examinations. Dr. Zafar Mahmood, Head of the Zakat Foundation told Hamara Samaj that Muslim students don't lack any qualification or talent. The question is that they should be given training right. The Zakat Foundation is one of the Muslim organizations that give free training to Muslim students for UPSC examination. In addition, they provide free books, accommodation and food. In collaboration with Jamiat-e-Ulema, the Zakat Foundation is running an institution in Ghaziabad. According to Dr. Zafar Mahmood, 990 Muslim students were trained in the Zakat Foundation in 2017. Of these 26 Muslims were elected, while the total number of Muslim candidates who were selected in these examinations was 50. Although many Islamic institutions offer free training to Muslim students for the UPSC exams, among them Jamia Millia Islamia, Hamdard Studies Center, Haj Committee of India, Ministry of Minority Affairs etc. are some of the major organizations.

## VI

### **Permission Denied to Offer Namaz at Disputed Place in Ayodhya**

According to **Inquilab** (December 21), the Allahabad High Court has not only denied permission to offer Namaz on Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya, but also said that the petitioner is doing a publicity stunt and imposed a fine of Rs 5 lakh on him. Simultaneously, Faizabad District Magistrate has also been instructed to recover the fine from the petitioner. Zafaryab Jilani, convener of the Babri Masjid Action Committee, expressed sympathy with the petitioner and said that he should not have acted silly. Jilani says that when the Supreme Court has given this directive several times that the status quo on this disputed plot is to be maintained, then how can the high court change it? Notably, Al-Rahman Trust, a non-government organization in Rae Bareli, Uttar Pradesh filed a petition in Lucknow Bench

of the Allahabad High Court seeking permission for the Muslims to offer Namaz on the disputed land of Ayodhya as Hindus are allowed to worship there. The petitioner argued that in the judgment in 2010 of Allahabad High Court, one third of this plot was given to Sunni Waqf Board, on which Muslims have the right to offer Namaz. Justice D.K. Arora and Justice Alok Mathur not only rejected this petition by adopting a tough stance but also imposed a penalty of five lakh rupees on the petitioner. Zafaryab Jilani, convener of the Babri Masjid Action Committee, says that when Section 7 (2) of the Ayodhya Land Acquisition Act was challenged in the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court had said in its directive that the situation which was on January 7, 1993 should be maintained. This was repeated by the Supreme Court in 2002. Zafaryab Jilani said that this matter was discussed between various Muslim leaders linked to the Babri Masjid case and in the end it was decided that this matter should not be challenged in the Supreme Court. He said that this is a very sensitive issue therefore Muslims should take any action cautiously.

## VII

### **20 People Killed in the US Attack in Eastern Afghanistan**

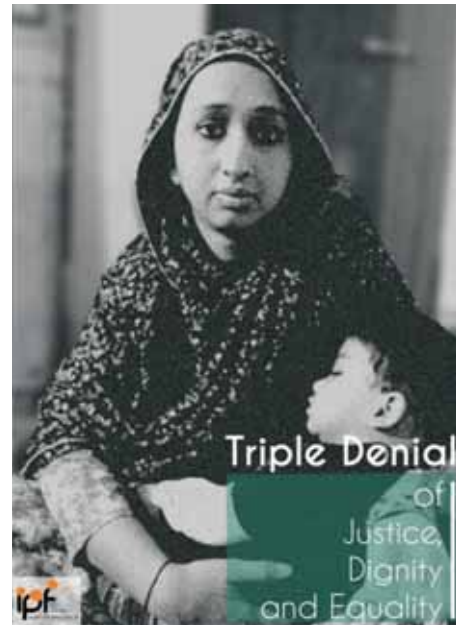
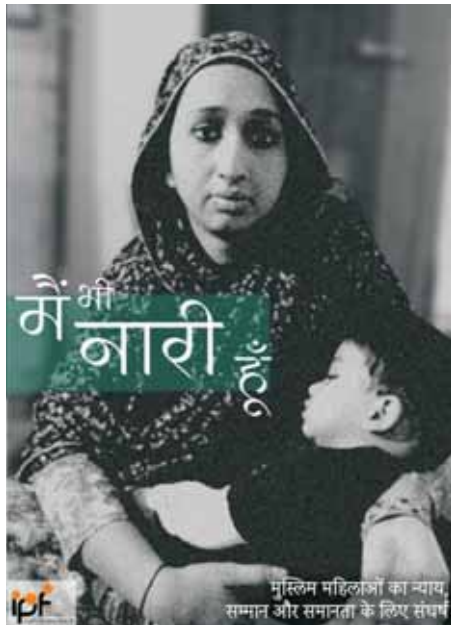
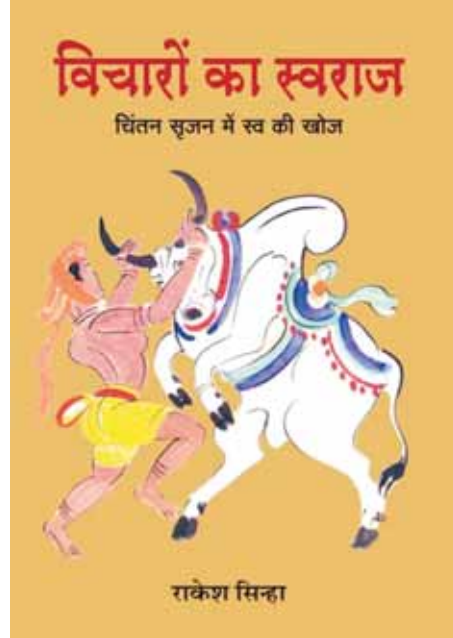
According to **Inquilab** (December 17), it has been reported that at least 20 civilians, including 12 children, have been killed in the US airstrike in eastern Afghanistan. According to sources from the UN, the number of people killed in the attacks by foreign troops in Afghanistan has increased by 50 percent in the current year. Five Taliban militants have been killed in a suicide attack in southern Afghanistan. It is said that when the terrorists were putting explosives to blow the road then this blast happened and all the five terrorists were killed.

# Review of Urdu Newspapers by IPF

1. Dawat, Delhi
2. Daily Inquilab, Delhi
3. Akhbar Mashriq, Delhi
4. Daily Sahafat, Delhi
5. Roznama Rashtriya Sahara, Delhi
6. Hindustan Express, Delhi
7. Hind Samachar, Jalandhar
8. Daily Pratap, Delhi
9. Daily Munsif, Hyderabad
10. Daily Siasat, Hyderabad
11. Daily Hamara Samaj, Delhi
12. Almi Sahara, Delhi
13. Aurangabad Times, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)
14. Jadid Markaz, Lucknow
15. Weekly Nai Dunia, Delhi
16. Daily Etemaad, Hyderabad
17. Jadid Mail, Delhi
18. Siyasi Taqdir, Delhi
19. Urdu Action, Delhi
20. Weekly Chauthi Duniya, Delhi
21. Weekly Akhbar Nav, Delhi
22. Daily Milap, Delhi
23. Qaumi Tanzeem, Patna
24. Daily Jadid Khabar, Delhi

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