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Promotion of Islam on the Pretext of FIFA World Cup



- Popular Front behind Mangaluru blasts
- Massive protests continue in Iran
- Shariah law imposed in Afghanistan
- Construction of grand masjid in Indonesia

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Summary

Though Qatar is a small nation, the way it has used the FIFA World Cup event for the promotion and propagation of Islam has become an issue for serious discussion among Urdu newspapers in the country. Just before the beginning of the tournament, a massive campaign was unleashed to convert non-Muslims into Muslims and controversial Islamic preacher Zakir Naik was specially invited to take part in it. According to newspapers, more than 850 non-Muslims converted to Islam before the beginning of the first match. The quotes from Quran and Hadith were displayed in huge number across the country. For the first time ever, a football match started with the recital of Quran. Liquor consumption was banned across the country and the entire atmosphere was given a pure Islamic aura. Whenever there was an azan for the namaz, the match was stopped till the azan ended.

The Qatar Emir had invited all veteran leaders from the Arab world for the match. The government of India objected to the invitation extended to Zakir Naik for the match. However, Qatar clarified that it did not extend any invitation to Zakir Naik. However, it is a fact that Zakir Naik was present at the inaugural ceremony of the match. The Urdu newspapers went overboard to glorify the Qatar rulers. In this connection, they also mentioned about the major role played by Qatar in protesting against the comments made by Nupur Sharma on the Prophet.

The newspapers also said the rulers of Qatar are so much filled with devotion to Islam, Quran and the Prophet that they dismissed the criticisms by Western nations outright. The newspapers also said the Qatar Emir had given a pure Islamic form to this event so that they could emerge as the true followers of Islam in the Muslim world.

In Afghanistan, the Taliban have announced implementation of Shariah law in totality. Under this law, there is a provision to punish those who insult the Prophet, Quran, Islam and also thieves, rebels and rapists by cutting off their heads publicly. Anyone found involved in illicit relationship will be publicly stoned to death and the hands of those who commit thefts will be cut off. This apart, public lashing will also be given as punishment. What is certain is that the implementation of these punishments has also started. Recently, nearly one-and-a-half dozen men and women were given public lashing as punishment.

Taliban's supreme leader Hibatullah Akhundzada has directed all the judges in the country that they strictly follow the Shariah law. When the United Nations criticised the implementation of such a stringent law, Taliban spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid warned against interfering in Islam in any manner. We will not tolerate insult to Islam and Shariah under any circumstance, he said. Before this, Taliban had banned women from stepping out of their house without wearing burqa. This apart, women were banned from taking up any jobs or receiving higher education. They have been banned from all public places and parks.

Interestingly, Taliban had strictly implemented the Shariah law when they came to power in the past as well. However, this time, before capturing power, Taliban had declared that it would not strictly implement the Shariah law. Now it has started following its old policy.

Pakistan's new Army chief Asim Munir has taken over the reins of the Army. Asim Munir is considered as a fundamentalist. In the past, he had headed Pakistan's notorious intelligence agency ISI and hence it is necessary for India to remain alert about the intentions of Pakistan.

In India, Islamic terrorists have once again started raising their head. In the recent blasts that took place in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, the investigating agencies suspect that they were linked to Islamic terrorist organisations ISIS and Popular Front. The Indian government, while taking cognizance of the dangerous activities of Popular Front and its associated organisations, had imposed a ban on them. However, despite this ban, this terrorist organisation is spreading its network in south India and North-eastern states.

The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to conduct a detailed inquiry into the sources of income of Islamic madrasas in regions close to Nepal border. It is being said that they get huge financial aid from foreign sources and through Zakat. The interesting thing is that in the past few years, there is a huge increase in the number of Islamic madrasas, dargahs and masjids in the regions close to Nepal border. It is not in the interest of the country to ignore the increasing activities of Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI in Nepal. It is being said that these Islamic institutions get lot of financial aid from these foreign sources. It is necessary for the government to remain alert in this connection.

The controversial central markaz of Tablighi Jamaat has once again been handed over to its chief Maulana Saad on the directions of Delhi High Court. It is to be noted that the government had sealed this markaz during the Corona pandemic. The government had claimed that Corona was spreading from the countries from where the foreign delegates had come to participate in the Tablighi Jamaat meeting. In this connection, many delegates of Tablighi Jamaat were taken into custody by the police.

The people of the country are not familiar with the background of Tablighi Jamaat. Hence it is necessary to throw some light on them. When the Arya Samaj started the Shuddhi movement under the leadership of Swami Shraddhanand, Maulana Ilyas Kandhlawi started Tablighi Jamaat as an answer to it. Now, the network of this organisation is spread over 120 countries and their followers are said to be more than 10 crore. Western countries allege that Tablighi Jamaat is the main centre of Islamic terrorism.

Controversial Islamic ruler Tipu Sultan is back in the midst of another row. Some time ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had unveiled the statue of the founder of Bengaluru city, Kempegowda. As an answer to this, Islamic fundamentalists had announced that they would build a 108-feet high statue of Tipu Sultan. Former Congress minister Tanveer Sait had announced that there is no memorial for the great freedom fighter Tipu Sultan and hence it is necessary to build a memorial for him in Mysore and Srirangapatnam. Some Hindu organisations opposed this declaration. They said that Tipu Sultan was a fanatic ruler and he had done massacre of Hindus in Coorg, and till today Diwali is not celebrated in that region in the memory of those killed by Tipu Sultan.



Popular Front behind Mangaluru blast



Inquilab (November 21) states that the police have described the blast that took place in an auto rickshaw in Mangaluru in Karnataka as a terrorist incident. Three persons were injured in this blast. A police spokesperson said they suspect the hands of proscribed organisation Popular Front of India behind the blast. Hence the state government handed over the investigation into the explosion to National Investigation Agency.

Mumbai Urdu News (November 21) reports that the Director General of Police, Karnataka, Praveen Sood said the Mangaluru auto rickshaw blast was linked to the Coimbatore bomb blast. A team of National Investigation Agency has reached the spot in order to probe the matter. The police claimed that the accused in the case has been identified. His name is Mohammad Shariq and he is 24 years old. In the past also, several terror cases were registered against him and he was behind the Mangaluru blast as well. The police searched the house of Mohammad Shariq located in Mysore and seized gelatin powder, circuit board battery, mobile, aluminium wire board and pressure cooker.

The accused used to stay on rent in the house and he had told the house owner that he had come there to learn mobile repairing.

Karnataka Home Minister Araga Jnanendra also described it as a terror incident and said that the state police and the National Investigation Agency are jointly probing the matter. According to Mangaluru police, a fake Aadhaar card had been seized from the injured passenger Premraj Hutagi. A sim card was also seized from him which he had obtained from a shop in south India using the fake Aadhaar card. The police are trying to bust the entire gang on the basis of this sim card. The Karnataka and Tamil Nadu police held discussions in connection with the investigation into the blast.

It is to be noted that a person named Jameesha Mubin had died in the Coimbatore blast and following a search at his house, material used for manufacturing bombs were seized. The Karnataka home minister said that it is possible that Popular Front is behind this blast.

Hamara Samaj (November 23) states that the National Investigation



Agency has announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh on those who provide information on one accused in the Mangaluru bomb case, Abdul Mateen Taha. The mother of Mateen said that his son was missing for the past 3 years and she did not know where he is. He had studied engineering in Bengaluru. According to police, Shariq and Mateen are close friends and they belong to same city. Mateen is said to be 28-years-old. Mateen is the son of a retired soldier Manzoor Ahmad.

Siasat (November 21) in its editorial expressed concern over the blast and said that elections are likely to take place in Karnataka in the next few months. The police and the chief minister had also claimed that it was a terror incident and they also expressed the suspicion that the incident is linked to the blast that took place in Coimbatore in the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu.

In the editorial it is mentioned that it is necessary to do a fair investigation into the entire incident. It is totally wrong to blame someone before an investigation is complete. Doing so will help the real terrorist to escape from the clutches of law. The real problem is that the investigating agencies have prepared a formula as per which they connect any incident to some organisations and give an arbitrary turn to the investigation. There also should not be any effort to take political mileage out of such incidents. In Karnataka, a new controversy is created almost every day. First, a ruckus was created over hijab. After

that the halal issue was raised. After this an issue was created by giving a call for economic boycott of Muslims. On behalf of some people and organisations, an effort is being made to create communal tension in this connection so that a particular community could be targeted. The efforts being made to polarise voters in the state in the forthcoming elections also cannot be ignored. It is the responsibility of the state government and the

police to keep a close watch on those who are trying to worsen the situation and on the elements who spread communalism.

Background: A day before Diwali, a blast took place in a car outside the famed Sanghameshwar temple in Coimbatore city in Tamil Nadu. The police had cordoned off the spot. Since it was suspected that the hands of Islamic terrorists were behind the incident, the Director General of Police of Tamil Nadu soon reached the spot and formed six special teams to investigate the incident. Later it came to light that 29-year-old Jameesha Mubin was the mastermind behind the incident. A search in his flat resulted in the seizure of 75-kilogram material which were being used to make bombs.

Later the police investigation had found that five others were also part of this gang. They include Mohammad Talha, Mohammad Azharuddin, Mohammad Riyaz, Feroz Ismail and Mohammad Nawaz Ismail. Following an examination of CCTV footage, all these five accused were arrested. A case was also registered against them under UAPA. The interesting thing is that the main accused has gone absconding and the National Investigation Agency has announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh for anyone helping to arrest him.

Opposition party AIADMK and BJP had held the laxity on the part of the government responsible for this incident. BJP leader and former MP C P Radhakrishnan and Coimbatore MLA

Vanathi Srinivasan had announced a one-day bandh over the incident. However, later they withdrew the bandh call. The National Investigation Agency also opened a temporary office in Coimbatore in order to investigate into the incident.

The National Investigation Agency has claimed that the blast was triggered in order to damage the place of worship so that communal tension could be created in the state under its pretext. They said that Mubin is linked to ISIS. The National Investigation Agency also claimed that the arrested persons had said they took the help of Mubin in order to assemble the material for making the bomb. Following this incident, the National Investigation Agency raided several places in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. A spokesperson of National Investigation Agency has confirmed that



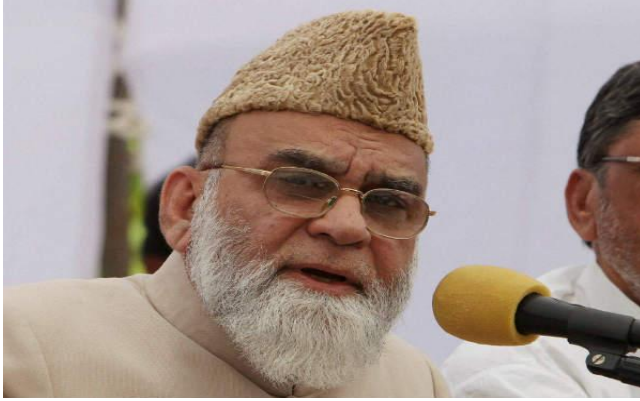
nearly 43 places were raided in Kerala and Tamil Nadu in order to trace this terrorist gang. Following this raid, several incriminating materials were seized. In Kerala, a man named Sheikh Mustafa was arrested in this connection who is connected to Riyaz Aboobacker who was arrested in 2019 for his links with Islamic State and Popular Front. He was arrested in connection with a blast that took place in Sri Lanka, in which nearly 100 people were killed.

Controversy over ban on entry of girls in Jama Masjid



Aurangabad Times (November 25) reports that the Delhi Women's Commission had issued a notice to the imam of Jama Masjid, Ahmad Bukhari, following a controversy over the entry of unaccompanied girl or girls to the Jama

Masjid. Chairperson of the Commission, Swati Maliwal, said nobody has the right to impose such a ban on the entry of women to the masjid. Meanwhile, the managers of Jama Masjid have made it clear that there is a ban only on unaccompanied girl or girls



into the masjid. But if any girl comes with her family or come to offer namaz, then there is no ban on it.

It is to be noted that a notice was pasted on the doors of the Jama Masjid in which it had been written that there is a ban on the entry of unaccompanied girl or girls in the masjid. This notice board was put up nearly a week ago. When its photo went viral, a controversy erupted over it. In her tweet, Swati Maliwal had mentioned that it is totally wrong to stop women from entering Jama Masjid. Whatever right a man has to offer prayers, the woman also has the same right.

A public relations officer of Jama Masjid, Zabiullah Khan, told a news agency that the entry of women has not been stopped. Some unaccompanied girls who come here call their boyfriends also here to meet them, which is a wrong step. Videos are being made here, which is against the dignity of the masjid. This step has been taken to stop such things. If women come here with their family members, then there is no ban on them. Married couples can also come. If any boy is called here for a specific time, then it is totally wrong to make this place a meeting point. It is also not correct to make videos and dance in the masjid. Our only aim for imposing this ban is that the masjid is not a tourist spot nor a place to meet the lover. It is a place for worship and it should be used in that way only.

Avadhnama (November 25) states that the ban that has been imposed on unaccompanied women at Jama Masjid in Delhi has been withdrawn on the directions

of the Lt Governor of Delhi, V K Saxena. However, the imam of the masjid, Ahmad Bukhari, has urged that those who come to visit the masjid should respect the dignity of the place.

Inquilab (November 24) states that the Shahi imam of Jama Masjid Ahmad Bukhari has told the reporters that he talked to the Lt Governor of Delhi over phone and he decided to lift the ban imposed in this connection. Some Hindu

organisations like Hindu Mahasabha have given a political colour to the issue and they sought a public apology from the imam in this connection. The newspaper said that some people are making efforts to give a political colour to the decision to impose a ban on the entry of unaccompanied women into the masjid. They want to make it an issue in the Municipal Corporation polls in Delhi.

When the representative of **Inquilab** talked to Shahi Imam over the entire issue, he said that if any girl or woman comes there for prayers or pilgrimage, then there is no ban on it. But if any girl comes there with a flower of rose in her hand and says that she wants to meet her boyfriend here and the meeting time has been scheduled then we will never give permission for it. He said that he had clearly told the Lt Governor that we would not allow the masjid to become a centre of immoral activities. Because such activities violate the decorum of the place of worship. The Lt Governor agreed with my stand. The Shahi Imam said that the ban on inappropriate and indecent activities in the masjid will remain. It is the responsibility of every one of us to maintain the honour and dignity of the masjid.

The imam said that it is the responsibility of the parents to stop the evils that spread in our society. Today the people have given such liberty to their sons and daughters that they come whenever they feel like and do whatever they feel like doing. Now debauchery and consumption of liquor have become very common. Girls

and boys of young age openly drink liquor. The parents should stop them from such activities. He also made it clear that when he imposed a ban on the entry in masjid then all people of the locality extended their support to it.

Muslim thinker Prof Akhtarul Waze described this controversy as unnecessary. He said that masjid is a place of worship. It is not a lover's meeting spot. Its sanctity

should be maintained. Since the Shahi Imam has made the situation clear, it is not proper to make it a controversial issue. When the managers of the masjid noticed the immoral activities on the premises of the masjid, then only he imposed a ban on it. The notice issued by the women's commission in Delhi is totally inappropriate and the notice has been issued to bake political bread. ■

Tipu Sultan again in a controversy



Siasat (November 19) states that former minister of Karnataka and Congress MLA Tanveer Sait filed a complaint with police in which he has alleged that he had been threatened of murder. He has landed in a controversy when he announced that a 108-foot statue of Tipu Sultan will be erected in Mysore or in Srirangapatnam. Following this announcement, some Hinduvadi activists had started threatening to kill him. He alleged that the Hindu organisations and ruling party have been running a campaign to give a bad name to the 18th century ruler for their own political benefits. Hence he will erect a statue of Tipu. He said that however, there is no permission in Islam to construct a statue. However, in the present circumstances it is necessary to set up a statue of this secular ruler in order to mitigate the continuous propaganda against this ruler who had sacrificed his life for the country.

It is to be noted that the BJP has been running a campaign against Tipu Sultan for a long time. The BJP leaders

allege that Tipu was a bigot and fanatic ruler and he had committed mass murder of Brahmins. When the Congress government announced to celebrate Tipu Jayanti, the BJP had opposed it due to which the state government had to cancel its decision to celebrate the birth anniversary of Tipu.

Inquilab (November 17) states that the BJP and Hindu organisations have opposed erecting the statue of Tipu Sultan. State's higher education minister C N Ashwath Narayan has condemned the decision to set up the statue of Tipu Sultan. This apart, the head of Hinduvadi organisation Sri Ram Sene, Pramod Muthalik said that if the statue of Tipu Sultan is erected anywhere, it will be destroyed. It is to be noted that before this, Pramod Muthalik's people had attacked a pub in Mangaluru and vandalised it. This apart, he had damaged the paintings of controversial painter M F Hussain in Delhi.

In a news published in **Roznama Sahara** (November 24), a court in Mysore has issued an interim ban on the sale and distribution of a book on Tipu Sultan published in Kannada language. This ban was imposed following a petition filed by the former chief of the District Waqf Board B S Rafiullah in a court in Bengaluru. The petitioner has alleged that a wrong information has been provided in the book about Tipu Sultan and it may lead to communal tension. ■

Order to hand over keys of Tablighi Markaz to Maulana Saad



Inquilab (November 29) states that the Delhi High Court has rejected the petition filed by Delhi Police to keep the Markaz of Tablighi Jamaat closed and directed them to hand over the keys of this building to Maulana Saad. The court said that currently there is no danger from Corona pandemic and hence the building shall be handed over back to Tablighi Jamaat. The court also made it clear that the issue is not about the property but about opening of a building.

The court has taken this decision on a petition filed by Delhi Waqf Board. Waqf board chairman and Aam Aadmi Party MLA Amanatullah Khan expressed happiness on the decision taken by the court. Whereas the lawyer of Waqf board, Wajih Shafeek, said this issue was not serious as it was made out to be. Even now the government is trying to keep the building sealed. A spokesperson of

Tablighi Markaz, Dr Mohammad Suhab Ali, has urged the court that now there is no Corona in Delhi and hence it is totally wrong to keep a religious institution closed. This order was issued by Justice Jasmeet Singh of Delhi High Court. Opposing this, the Delhi Police said that there is a controversy over the property of the building. On this, the court said that the issue of ownership is not before the court. From whom the property was seized, it should be handed over back to him. The police can impose whatever conditions it wanted to impose. But the keys of the building shall be handed over back to the Maulana.

It is to be noted that the Waqf board had filed a petition before the high court on February 21, 2021 and the verdict on it has been delivered today. When the Corona pandemic started, the administration claimed that Corona has been spread in the country through the foreigners who had come to take part in the meeting in Tablighi Jamaat. Following this, the government organised raids in several parts of the country and arrested the activists of Tablighi Jamaat and also sealed Tablighi Markaz. Despite opposition from the Central government, the Delhi High Court had granted permission to open Tablighi Markaz during Ramzan.

Inquiry into sources of income of unrecognised madrasas

Inquilab (November 22) states that two ministers in Uttar Pradesh government have given the information that there are a huge number of unrecognised madrasas on the Uttar Pradesh-Nepal border and they get huge donations and Zakat from foreign countries. Hence a high-level investigation will be conducted into them. He said that there are more than 1,000 unrecognised

madrasas on the Nepal border. It will be investigated from where they are getting the help and nobody will be given permission to do illegal activities. On the other hand, the chairman of Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Talimi Board, Dr Iftikhar Ahmad Jawed said that all such news are just rumours. He said that the survey of madrasas has been completed and 8,441



told reporters that initially some madrasas will be run like modern schools and non-Muslim students will also be admitted there. In the first phase of this programme, some madrasas in Dehradun, Uddham Singh Nagar, Haridwar and Nainital have been selected. In these madrasas, the text from Quran will be read in the morning and religious education will be given. In the

unrecognised madrasas have been found in Uttar Pradesh in which more than 7.64 lakh boys and girls are getting education.

As per another news, the Uttar Pradesh government has completed the survey of Islamic madrasas in the state. Now the government is marking such Islamic madrasas which are built on government land. In Hapur district, 21 such madrasas have been identified which are built on government land. The government is taking legal action against them. These madrasas are located in the tehsils of Hapur, Dhaulana and Garhmukteshwar.

Avadhnama (November 22) has also confirmed the state government has decided to conduct an investigation into the sources of income of unrecognised Islamic madrasas located on Nepal-Uttar Pradesh border. As per a special report, there are more than 500 unrecognised madrasas on the border regions of Siddharth Nagar. There are 400 unrecognised madrasas in Balrampur, 200 in Lakhimpur Kheri, 60 in Maharajganj and Bahraich. The government inquiry has found that these madrasas are getting Zakat money from several major cities of the country. This apart, they are also getting money from Nepal and Dubai. The government is trying to find out whether they are getting these foreign aid through legal means.

Inquilab (November 24) states that a dress code has been implemented in the madrasas in Uttarakhand and the syllabus in these madrasas will be based on NCERT and non-Muslim children will also get education there. The chairman of Uttarakhand Waqf Board, Shadab Shams,

afternoon, a provision will be made to give them education as per the NCERT syllabus.

Roznama Sahara (November 16) in its editorial has accused the Assam government of adopting an anti-Muslim policy and said that bulldozer is run over madrasas there on the pretext of baseless charges. Now a decision has been taken to end Islamic madrasas. In the latest order, the Himanta Biswa Sarma government has given a direction to all Islamic madrasas that they give all information regarding their syllabus and the teachers and also give information from which all sources are they getting the financial aid. The Assam police has given this indication that the government will also try to ensure that terrorists do not take refuge in these madrasas on the pretext of religious education. This apart, intelligence wing will probe about the teachers who have come from outside Assam.

The newspaper said that there are at least 1,000 such madrasas in the country which are run by the Muslims using their donations and they do not take any help from the government. Recently, the government ran bulldozers over three madrasas after describing them as safe houses for terrorists. In the past three years, more than 100 people were caught for taking part in terrorist activities, out of which 10 people were said to be connected to madrasas. In 2020, the government had decided to convert all government-aided madrasas into government schools. The newspaper alleged that the Assam government is trying to erase the cultural identity of Muslims.

Shariah law implemented in Afghanistan



Roznama Sahara (November 16) reports that the Taliban had announced that the Shariah law will be fully implemented in Afghanistan. The government spokesperson said that the supreme leader of Afghanistan, Hibatullah Akhundzada, had given a direction in this connection to the judges of different courts. As per Shariah law, the offenders will be publicly hanged to death and they will be stoned to death. This apart, punishment by lashing and by cutting off different parts of the body will also start soon.

As per a report published in Dawn, Taliban spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid said the supreme leader of Taliban, Hibatullah Akhundzada, held talks with a group of lawyers following which he directed that Shariah law shall be implemented strictly. It is to be noted that in the past also when Taliban assumed power in 1992, it has strictly implemented the Shariah law. However, after coming to power once again last year, Taliban had declared that this time they would be more lenient and the Shariah law would not be implemented strictly. However, after coming to power, they slowly started implementing the Shariah law. Women have been banned from leaving house without wearing a burqa or travel unaccompanied. All educational institutions of women and girls have been

closed down. This apart, women and girls have been banned from visiting parks or going for work. There were strong reactions from the world against these decisions and the United Nations and the US condemned it, but it had no effect on Taliban.

Afghan government spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said that those involved in robbery, anti-nationals, kidnappers and those who smuggle contraband will be strictly dealt with. The government has given this direction that the files of those involved in such things shall be studied and give them punishment as per Islamic law. In Shariah, the punishment for rape and illicit relationship is that the accused is half-buried in the ground and then publicly stoned to death. The Taliban have also decided to give stringent punishment to those who drink liquor and smuggle drugs and consume them. It looks like that Taliban wants to dominate the Islamic world.

Mumbai Urdu News (November 22) states that the Taliban had ordered the imams of all masjids in the country that after the Juma namaz they deliver a common sermon and pray for the well-being of the supreme leader of Taliban, Hibatullah Akhundzada. The spokesperson said that it is the tradition of Islam to offer prayers for the ruler. We are implementing

our old traditions. According to Afghan national television, the number of masjids and religious madrasas is being increased in the country. The period of Islamic education has been increased in all the universities of the country. The spokesperson said that it is the basic right of our government to strictly implement Islamic Shariah and it is due to this right that restrictions have been imposed on women and girls.



Mumbai Urdu News (November 25) states that Shariah law has been implemented in Afghanistan and after it, 11 men and three women were given public lashing as punishment. They were accused of theft and taking part in unethical activities. As per a report published in 'Dawn', the information minister in Taliban government said that punishment for lashing may not be given in public and the accused were not given more than 39 lashes. It is to be noted that during the previous rule of Taliban, the accused were given punishment of lashing or cutting off the head or body parts publicly at the national stadium in front of people.

Avadhnama (November 17) in its editorial, while commenting on the implementation of Shariah law in Afghanistan, said that the Taliban, after coming to power in Afghanistan, had assured Western nations that it would not implement the stringent provisions of Shariah law in the country. But now they have gone back to their old ways and today they do not care about any country in the world. The worst situation is for Afghan

women who have been prevented from going out of their house without a burqa and stopped from taking up employment or receiving education.

The newspaper alleged that the supreme leader of Taliban has taken this decision in order to get fame in the Islamic world. It would have been better before implementing such stringent laws people should have been mentally prepared so that they come to terms with the Shariah.

Mumbai Urdu News (November 28) states that the spokesperson of United Nations Human Rights Commission has criticised the implementation of Shariah law in Afghanistan and described it as inhuman and barbaric law. Taliban spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid, while criticising these comments made by the United Nations, said that commenting on the Shariah law and the punishment mentioned in it is an insult to Islam and Shariah, which no Muslim would tolerate. The Western nations do not have any right to target our holy religion. He urged the United Nations to stop its spokespersons from making anti-Islam statements.

Asim Munir Pakistan Army's new chief

Inquilab (December 1) states that Syed Asim Munir has taken over as the Army chief of Pakistan. He is the 17th Army chief of Pakistan.

Roznama Sahara (November 30) states that General Asim Munir has taken

over from the incumbent chief of Pakistan Army, General Qamar Javed Bajwa. Earlier, General Bajwa was given a send-off at a parade by the Pakistan Army. On this occasion, the chairman of the chiefs of staff committee, General Sahir Shamsad



made the chief of the military intelligence wing. In October 2018, he was made the chief of ISI. That time he was functioning as the Quarter Master General in the Army Headquarters. General Asim Munir is the first Army chief of Pakistan who was earlier the chief of military intelligence wing and the nation's main intelligence agency ISI. He was appointed by General Raheel Sharif as the Director General of Military Operations and he had supervised the operations against terrorists in Waziristan. General Asim

Mirza, Pakistan's Air Force chief Zahir Ahmad Babar and other senior officials were present. General Bajwa said that his friendship with General Munir is nearly 24 years old. General Munir is a Hafiz Quran. He said that his stint with Pakistan army started 44 years ago and it has ended now.

Siasat (November 25) states that after speculations which has been running for a long time, Pakistan Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had recommended the name of the former chief of Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI for the Army chief's post, which the President has approved. It is to be noted that when Imran Khan was the prime minister of Pakistan, Asim Munir was removed from the post of the chief of ISI and instead installed a man of his liking as the ISI head. Imran Khan was against making Munir as the Army chief and he had demanded that a high level committee shall be formed to select the Army chief, which shall include the Opposition leader, the chief justice of Pakistan and the Prime Minister. However, the current Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shahbaz Sharif, had rejected this proposal.

According to Pakistani newspapers, Asim Munir is a Punjabi. He was commissioned into Frontier Force regiment. Later he served as the commander of the army in the northern region as a Brigadier. In 2017, he was

Munir was supposed to retire on November 30 but since he has been appointed as the Army chief, he will continue in the post for the next three years. Though another senior general of Pakistan, Sahir Shamsad Mirza, is senior to him, he has been overlooked for the post. Mirza has been appointed as the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Inquilab (November 25) states that the plan of former prime minister Imran Khan is to question the appointment of General Munir in a court and he has started holding discussions with legal experts in this connection.

Roznama Sahara (November 26) states that US newspaper 'New York Times' in its editorial stated that the new chief of Pakistan Army has to face difficulties in two fronts. The first is to improve the financial condition of Pakistan and second, to restore the faith and trust of the people on the Army. According to British newspaper 'The Times,' Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had sent a panel of six names to the President for appointment to the post of Army chief and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The newspaper also said that the appointment to the post of the Army chief of Pakistan is very important because in the 75-year history of Pakistan, half of the time the power was in the control of the Army and even now the

situation is such that without the nod of the Army no civilian ruler can survive for long.

In April this year, when Imran Khan was removed from the post of the Prime Minister, he had alleged that the hands of Pakistan Army and the US were behind his ousting. After being thrown out of power, the way the Pakistani Army has been made

a target of criticism at the behest of Imran Khan, it has dealt a severe blow to the image of Pakistan Army in the eyes of the people of Pakistan and it also resulted in increasing differences within the Army. Imran Khan has especially targeted the former Pakistani Army chief, Qamar Javed Bajwa.

Anwar Ibrahim appointed new prime minister of Malaysia



to make Anwar Ibrahim the Prime Minister.

Siasat (November 21) states that the 97-year-old former prime minister of Malaysia, Mahathir Mohamad had to suffer defeat for the first time in his 53-year-old political life. It is to be noted that when Mahathir Mohamad became the prime minister for the second time in 2018, his name was entered in the Guinness Book of World Records for being the

Avadhnama (November 25) states that Malaysia's Sultan Abdullah issued a decree appointing former Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim as the new prime minister. However, he did not get a majority in the recently held elections. Only those who secure 112 seats in the 222-member Malaysian Parliament (Dewan Rakyat) get a majority. However, Anwar Ibrahim's party got only 82 seats. The alliance led by incumbent Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin got 73 seats.

It is to be noted that Anwar Ibrahim was sentenced to six years in jail by a court on charges of corruption and later the sentence was increased to eight years. However, Malaysia's Supreme Court had released him right in the beginning itself. In 2018, Anwar Ibrahim entered into an alliance with Mohamad Mahathir and it was agreed upon that Mahathir would hand over the Prime Ministership to Anwar Ibrahim after two years. However, later he went back from this agreement and refused

oldest prime minister to take over the office of PM. Mahathir had ruled Malaysia with an iron hand during his first stint (1981 to 2003).

In 2018, Najib Razak had taken over as the prime minister. However, later on charges of corruption, he was ousted and now he is serving his 12-year term in jail. Mahathir became prime minister for second time just two months after his 93rd birthday. However, he had to resign from his post even before completing two years due to differences in the ruling party.

Inquilab (November 25) states that though Anwar Ibrahim's alliance got only 82 seats, later he managed to secure a majority by luring the MPs of some smaller parties into his alliance. According to the newspaper, Anwar Ibrahim was Deputy Prime Minister during the regime of former prime minister Mahathir in the 1990s and that period, he was sentenced to eight years in jail on charges of corruption. Anwar Ibrahim remained in the opposition for 30

years and he has come back to power again now. He had to remain in jail for 10 years on charges of immoral relationship and charges of corruption.

Roznama Sahara (November 21) states that no alliance got a clear majority

in the elections this time and hence a situation of political uncertainty prevails. Later Anwar Ibrahim secured a majority in the Parliament with the cooperation of some smaller parties and Sultan appointed him as the prime minister.

Pakistan-Afghanistan border closed

Roznama Sahara (November 21) states that the talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan to reopen the border between the two countries, namely 'Chaman border', has failed. Hence this border has been closed for an indefinite period. It is to be noted that on November 13, some unidentified people opened fire from the Afghanistan border in which three soldiers of Pakistan were killed and two were injured. Pakistan has stressed on conducting a joint investigation to probe the incident and nab the accused persons. However, the Afghanistan government has rejected this. This apart, a controversy has also erupted between the two countries over Afghanistan women entering Pakistan through this border on which no solution could be found so far.

Roznama Sahara (November 17) states that a few terrorists attacked policemen in the Pakistani province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in which at least six Pakistani policemen were killed. It is being



said that the assailants were riding a motorcycle and they fled through the Afghanistan border.

Inquilab (November 27) states that armed assailants of banned organisation Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan launched an attack on Pakistan Army in Bannu district in Pakistan in which at least three Pakistani soldiers were killed. Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan has taken responsibility for this attack. Earlier, the terrorists had attacked a police station and seized the building before looting arms and ammunition and later fled from the spot.

France's biggest ever military exercise

Mumbai Urdu News (November 17) reports that France has started preparations for the biggest ever military exercise in its military history in which nearly 12,000 soldiers are likely to take part. French-allied NATO nations are also likely to take part in the exercise. The government has announced the schedule of the exercise and an indication has been given that this military exercise is being organised in the wake of



Russia's attack on Ukraine. The military exercise will begin in February 2023 and will continue for the next four months. A military spokesperson of France

said that it is necessary for us to remain prepared for any big war. In the past two decades, our focus was only on Islamic jihadis, and hence such a military exercise is necessary for the restructuring of our Army and to test its ability.

Promotion of Islam under the pretext of FIFA World Cup



Qatar has heavily used the FIFA World Cup event for the promotion and propagation of Islam

Mumbai Urdu News (November 21) has published this event as its lead news. According to the newspaper, for the first time in the world, a football match started with recital of Quran. Even before the start of the event, 850 people announced their decision to accept Islam. Controversial Islamic preacher Zakir Naik not only watched the match, but he also actively took part in the conversion of non-Muslims to Islam and also recited Kalima to them. Zakir Naik delivered several speeches on Islam to those who had come to participate in the ceremony.

The newspaper expressed happiness that for the first time Islamic traditions have been followed at FIFA World Cup match. During the match, there was a total ban on liquor and homosexuals were stopped from watching the matches.

For women, a full veil system was imposed. At the inaugural ceremony of the World Cup, Turkey President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammad Bin Salman, King Abdullah of Jordan, Egypt President Al Sisi and the Dubai Sheikh took active part.

Qatar Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani welcomed the guests. This was the first time the world football match was being organized in any Middle-East nation.

The Israelis were given permission to take part in the function on condition that they register themselves as Palestinian citizens. Throughout Qatar, in every places the verses from Islam and hoardings quoting Hadith were put up and no stone had been unturned to propagate Islam. The interesting thing is that as soon as the azan for namaz begins, the entire event comes to a standstill. In one match, Saudi Arabia had defeated Argentina. This provoked a celebration in the entire Muslim world. In Saudi Arabia, a public holiday was declared. Every member of the winning team has been given a Rolls Royce Phantom luxury car as a gift on behalf of the Saudi Arabian government.

Mumbai Urdu News (November 30) states that six members from a family in Brazil have adopted Islam. Apart from the father and mother, this family has four children. The mother and her three daughters were seen wearing burqa. Before this, a family from Mexico also adopted Islam at the hands of Zakir Naik. During the FIFA World Cup match, Qatar had



only innocent of the allegations raised against him, but till now no government or court has found him guilty of any offence. In such a situation, if he has gone to Qatar for some good work, then what right has India to raise any objection? Qatar has failed in the playground, but outside the ground, it has won the hearts of

displayed the translation of verses of Quran on electronic boards in order to propagate Islam.

Salar (November 24) has published a special article titled, 'Qatar makes FIFA World Cup a means for promotion of Islam.' The newspaper has written that though Qatar is a small nation, the rulers have strong commitment to promote Islam. In Qatar, the promotion by Muslim brotherhood has great effect. This apart, people are very much influenced by the Dawat-e-Islam of Allama Yusuf al Qaradawi. This is the reason why the rulers of Qatar realized that the FIFA World Cup event was a good opportunity for Dawat-e-Islam and Tabligh. The rulers there did not bother what the world would say. They just cared for how happy Allah would be with their actions. They have showed the world what is true Islam.

The newspaper also said that when Nupur Sharma made some disparaging comments on the Prophet, the Qatar ruler was among those who raised their voices against it. It had its impact on the Indian government as well. However, Qatar is not such a big, strong nation. It is also being said that Hindustan will boycott this match. However, Hindustan boycotting doesn't mean anything at all, because Indian football team is not going there to play any match. Hindustan also has an objection to Zakir Naik being hosted in Qatar. However, Zakir Naik is a preacher, where he propagates Islam in a peaceful manner across the world. Unfortunately, he is not

people across the world.

The newspaper has also written that this small nation was preparing for the World Cup for the past 12 years, and for which it has spent 3 billion dollars. Eight new stadia, new metro system and many roads were constructed. The airports were extended and 100 new hotels were built for the accommodation of 15 lakh spectators. The rulers of Qatar have presented an example to the Muslims in the entire world that they should not get influenced by the big powers of the world and make open efforts to preach and promote Islam. In order to make the world happy, they should not displease their creator. Qatar has made an effort to unite all Arab nations. This has brought unity among the Arabs.

Salar (November 28) has published an article written by Zafar Agha, titled 'Football World Cup a revolution in Muslim World.'

Roznama Sahara (November 28) has published an article written by Dr Mohammad Ziaullah in which it has been predicted that games can unite the Islamic world.

Inquilab (November 27) has published an article written by Hamna Kabir in which it has been said that the way Qatar has propagated Islam and Quran to the world through the football match, the Western nations did not like it. Hence they have started a disinformation campaign against Qatar.

Roznama Sahara (November 23) reports that India raised the issue of



Islamic Research Foundation as illegal, following which Zakir Naik had fled to Malaysia.

Mumbai Urdu News (November 24) states that the India government objected to the presence of Zakir Naik at the inaugural ceremony of FIFA World Cup. Qatar claimed through diplomatic sources that it did not extend any invitation to

invitation given to Zakir Naik for the FIFA World Cup with Qatar. Union minister Hardeep Puri said that Zakir Naik is a Malaysian citizen. “You can invite him wherever you want. But what is the meaning of inviting him to an event about which he has no connection.”

Zakir Naik to take part in the inaugural ceremony. In this connection, some countries are making false propaganda, who wanted to spoil the relationship between Qatar and India.

It is to be noted that Zakir Naik was invited to FIFA World Cup. In India, a warrant is pending against Zakir Naik for delivering a provocative speech and he has been staying abroad for a long time now. In 2016, India had declared Zakir Naik’s

Mumbai Urdu News (November 29) states that some Islamic scholars from Egypt have objected to the organizing of FIFA World Cup and said that is a waste of time, money and hard work. Hence this match was unwarranted. However, later due to protests from the people, they withdrew this fatwa.

Diplomatic relations resume between Saudi Arabia and Thailand

Inquilab (November 21) states that Thailand and Saudi Arabia have become friends once again after a gap of three decades, and the two countries have resumed their diplomatic relationship. In is to be noted that following the theft of blue diamonds and a few murders, the relationship between the two countries got strained and the two had announced an end to their diplomatic relationship. Recently, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia visited Thailand and held talks with the Prime Minister there. Following the meeting, the two countries signed five agreements, which include improving the trade between the two countries, increase in investments, cooperation in energy sector and promotion



of tourism. Thailand expressed hope that the investments from Saudi Arabia would boost its economy. It is to be noted that a Thailand citizen had stolen a precious blue diamond of a Saudi prince worth 20 million.

Siasat (November 18) reports that Saudi Arabia's minister for investment Khalid Al-Falih told media persons that during the visit of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman to South Korea, 26 agreements were signed as per which Saudi Arabia will make investments worth 5 billion dollars in South Korea. Five companies of Korea will set up a giant plant in Saudi Arabia for the production of Green Hydrogen and Ammonia, which is expected to cost 6.5 billion dollars. In this

connection, the construction will begin in 2025 and it is expected to be complete by 2029. The plant will produce 12 lakh tonnes hydrogen and ammonia.

Etemaad (November 18) reports that Saudi Arabia and Indonesia have decided to cooperate in energy sector. This apart, the two countries have also decided to increase the trade between them. Indonesia and Saudi Arabia are also starting a project for the manufacture of batteries for e-vehicles. ■

Huge protests continue in Iran

Mumbai Urdu News (November 27) states that the Iranian soldiers opened indiscriminate firing on protesters after Juma namaz in Sistan and Balochistan in which hundreds of people were killed and many were injured. The soldiers of Iranian militia Pasdaran-e-Inqilab have been deployed in order to crush the protests. In Zahedan, Sunni Muslims raised slogans in favour of Kurdistan.



murder of a nine-year-old boy, Kian Pirfalak, violence broke out as his body was being taken to Kabristan for burial. The Iranian government claimed that the boy was killed by terrorists. Whereas the boy's mother said her son was shot dead by Iranian soldiers right in

front of her.

As per another news, the chief of Iran's intelligence agency was murdered in the country's Karmanshah province in Iran. A government spokesperson said that the rioters attacked security personnel resulting in the death of Colonel Nader Bayrami. The soldiers arrested his assailants from the spot itself. Iran's government media alleged that the protesters attacked police using lethal weapons, due to which at least nine persons were killed.

Inqilab (November 23) reports that the police have arrested two popular film artists because they refused to wear scarf.

Etemaad (November 21) states that Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has alleged that foreign hands are behind the anti-government protests that have been taking place in the country and they wanted to overthrow the Islamic government in Iran.

Roznama Sahara (November 28) has published a news in which the Iran's supreme leader's niece Farida Muradkhani, while supporting the anti-government protests taking place in the country,

Avadhnama (November 26) reports that the United Nations Human Rights Council has alleged that more than 14,000 protesters were arrested in connection with the protests that have been taking place in Iran. Also, more than 300 protesters were killed including 40 children and 20 women. So far, seven persons have been hanged to death on charges of taking part in protests. It is to be noted that following the death of a Kurd woman Mahsa Amini in police custody, Iran is engulfed in a series of protests.

Roznama Sahara (November 11) reports that after the death of a nine-year-old child in police firing in Iran, the nationwide protests against Iranian government acquired further momentum. It is to be noted that these protests are continuing for the past two months. According to Iranian Human Rights Organisation, at least 350 people have been killed in police firing. Following the

described Iran government as killers and murderers of children. Following this statement, she was arrested. In a video

message broadcast on Radio Farda, she urged nations across the world that they sever their diplomatic tie-up with Iran.

Protest in Iraq against air strikes by Iran and Turkey



Etemaad (November 23) states that the Iraq's external affairs ministry has condemned the Iranian bombardments in Kurdistan in northern Iraq using missiles and drones and said that it would not be tolerated. He said that the attacks being carried out by Iran and Turkey in the border areas of Kurdistan is a violation of the sovereignty of Iraq.

A spokesperson of US State Department has condemned the attacks by Iran and Turkey in Syria and said that it has conveyed its displeasure to Turkey in this connection and said that they should not take such actions in future. We have also advised the leaders of Syria that they do not take any such action that shall further increase the tension. We condemn all such military actions, which leads to the situation in Syria getting instable or that targets the innocent people in Iraq. It is to be noted that a few

weeks ago, six persons were killed in an explosion in Istanbul. The Turkish government had said that banned organisation Kurdistan Workers Party and Syrian People's Production Unit were behind the blasts.

Etemaad (November 22) reports that Iraq has alleged that Iran had launched attacks on Iraqi positions and Iran's Pasdaran-e-Inqilab was behind this attack. According to PDKI, the biggest organisation of Kurds in Iran, the Iran government has failed to crush the freedom movement of Kurds. That is why they got frustrated and launched air strikes on Kurd majority regions in Iraq.

Inqilab (November 26) reports that Turkey, while rejecting the warning from Russia, said that it would go ahead with its air attacks in Syria and Iraq, because the Kurds belonging to these regions are spreading violence in Turkey.

Etemaad (November 20) reports that Turkey's foreign affairs minister Mevlot Cavusoglu said their military action against Kurds in eastern Syria and northern Iraq would continue and they would not stop it under any circumstance. He alleged that after the blast that took place in Istanbul, the 17 people who were arrested were linked to Kurd extremists.

Intruders expelled from Libya

Inqilab (November 26) states that more than 200 foreign citizens who had illegally entered Libya have been expelled from the country and sent back to their native places. These intruders belong to Egypt, Nigeria and Sudan. A spokesperson of foreign affairs ministry of Libya said that it was the first time that intruders were being expelled from the country. He alleged that Libya has

become a centre of intruders who have been trying to enter European nations after crossing Mediterranean Sea. Hundreds of people had drowned in sea during such attempts. According to International Organisation for Migration, more than 20,000 intruders have been saved from drowning this year. They include women and children.

Construction of grand mosque in Indonesia



Etemaad (November 16) states that the President of United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has inaugurated a grand mosque in Indonesia's major city Solo. This mosque was constructed by United Arab Emirates. It

has 56 domes, four minars and 32 columns. Nearly 10,000 namazis can offer namaz simultaneously in this masjid. On this occasion, Indonesian President Joko Widodo has expressed his gratitude to United Arab Emirates.

Majlis fields 15 candidates in MCD elections

Etemaad (November 22) reports that All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen has fielded 15 candidates in the municipal corporation elections in Delhi and also extended support to an Independent Dalit candidate. Majlis had announced to field a total of 17 candidates in these elections, but the nomination papers of two of them got rejected. Their names are Reshma, wife of Jahangir Firdaus and Mohammad Jahangir



Khan. In Sundar Nagari ward, Majlis has extended support to independent Dalit candidate Chitra Shalini. In 2017, Majlis had fielded nine candidates in the elections and none of them managed to win. The

interesting thing is that this time Majlis has fielded a Hindu woman candidate as well and her name is Smt Ved, wife of Sri Narayan Singh.

Tablighi Jamaat congregation in Bhopal

Mumbai Urdu News (November 19) states that Tablighi Jamaat's World Tablighi Meet was held in Bhopal in which more than 10 lakh Muslims took part. A total of 467 Jamaats in the country

participated in this congregation. This congregation continued for four days. A 30 lakh square feet camp was set up for those taking part in the meet and a 17-kilometre long drinking water pipeline was also laid

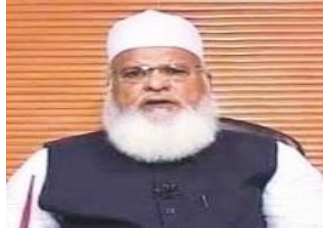


for the participants. The interesting thing is that those taking part in the meeting were

provided only vegetarian food. In the food zone, provisions were made to provide food for 2 lakh people simultaneously. A 300-acre land was provided for parking. This was the first time Tablighi Jamaat did not invite foreigners to take part in the meeting. In order to make arrangements for the meeting, 20,000 Razakars were given charge.

Pakistan's Mufti-e-Azam passes away

Mumbai Urdu News (November 20) reports that world-renowned Islamic scholar and Pakistan's Mufti-e-Azam Rafi Usmani passed away in Karachi. He has been ill for quite some time. On his death, Pakistan President Arif Alvi, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, former



prime minister Nawaz Sharif, head of the Barelvi sect Maulana Tahir Ashrafi, chief of Jamaat-e-Islami Siraj ul Haq and the chief of Jamiat Ulema Pakistan, Maulana Fazalur Rahman expressed condolences.

Non-Muslim girl wins Quran recital competition

Mumbai Urdu News (November 23) reports that a non-Muslim girl from Kerala had won first prize in an all India Quran recital competition and she was given the award as well. The girl's name is Parvati.



Parvati's father's name is Nalish Bobby, who is an IIT professor. Her mother's name is Dina Prabha, who is also a professor. Parvati is a Class IV student in Kozhikode.

