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Will Pasmanda Muslims Come Closer to BJP



- Controversy over screening of BBC documentary
- Israel ready for nuclear attack on Iran
- Uproar over burning of Quran in European nations
- Fine imposed on seven masjids in Haridwar

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Summary

The Khalistani fundamentalists have started targeting Hindu temples in foreign nations. According to newspapers, nearly a dozen Hindu temples have been vandalized and their murtis damaged in Australia and Canada. It is being said that a banned terrorist organisation, 'Sikh for Justice,' is suspected to be behind such incidents. This repulsive tendency began in Australia. Soon, similar incidents took place in Canada. While condemning these incidents, the Indian government urged the respective nations to take stringent steps to protect the places of worship of Indian community. It also requested necessary steps to protect the life and property of Indians staying in these countries.

In European countries, there is growing anger among people against Islamic radicalism due to the rapid growth of Islamic terrorism. Recently, right wing extremists burned copies of Quran in Sweden, Denmark and Netherlands. Islamic countries across the world protested such incidents. The largest educational institution in Islamic world, Al Azhar University, urged all Islamic nations to withdraw diplomatic relationship with the countries where Quran was burned and boycott them financially.

The Islamic terrorism that Pakistan has given birth to and promoted, has become a serious headache for that country now. Recently, banned Islamic terrorist organisation Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan has sparked violent incidents in the country. The latest incident was the attack on the police line masjid in Peshawar. According to Pakistani newspaper 'Jung', at least 100 police personnel were killed in this attack and more than 400 policemen were injured and the condition of many was serious. Following the attack, an Emergency has been declared across entire Pakistan. All Pakistani citizens were asked to organize blood donation camps across the country in order to save the lives of injured policemen. The government also directed all the hospitals in the country to remain prepared to deal with any kind of emergency.

The popularity of BJP is rapidly increasing among the Pasmanda Muslim community in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asked BJP workers to pay special attention to bring Pasmanda Muslims closer to the party. This apart, he had also directed the party workers not to issue statements that hurt the sentiments of ordinary Muslims. The series of talks that the BJP and Sangh Parivar have started with Muslim intellectuals in order to remove the misunderstandings among the Muslim community about Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, is slowly bearing fruition. In this connection, two high-level meetings have been held so far and their results were positive. According to Muslim newspapers, there is a huge increase in the number of Muslim votes that the BJP is getting. In 2014, the BJP got 9% Muslim votes, which has increased to more than 20% in 2019. The credit for the massive victory that the BJP has got in the recently held Gujarat Assembly elections has also been given to Muslim voters. The Muslim voters also played a major role in the victory of BJP candidates in the Lok Sabha bypolls held in Azamgarh and Rampur constituencies in Uttar Pradesh.

Will Pasmanda Muslims come closer to BJP?



Hamara Samaj (January 30) states that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who often raises the slogan ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas Aur Sabka Vishwas’ has given a new ray of hope by once again declaring that his government is consistently working for the uplift of Pasmanda Muslims and the efforts to bring them to mainstream are bearing fruition. From this statement of Modi, it has become clear that his target is now Pasmanda Muslims instead of ordinary Muslims and they are moving towards BJP. Due to this, a new spirit is seen among Pasmanda Muslims. The leaders of the 42 Pasmanda communities said they form 90% of the total population of Muslims and till now only 10% percent Ashrafiya (upper caste) Muslims have got the benefits of government’s welfare programmes.

The newspaper said that this is the first time that a Prime Minister had thought about us. Hence we need to trust Modi. Such statements are often made at the gatherings of Pasmanda Muslims, but the day is not far away when the Pasmanda Muslims will totally marginalize the Ashrafiya Muslims. There is a delay in this because the Pasmanda Muslims have also suffered in the growing incidents of harassment and excesses against Muslims under the Modi rule. Even in mob lynching

cases, Pasmanda Muslims lost their lives. Even in masjids and madrasas, the majority are Pasmandas. In any case, some organisations which often target Muslims apart from the RSS and Bajrang Dal, sometimes over hijab and sometimes for allegedly producing more children, their targets are also mostly people belonging to the Pasmanda community. The RSS has prepared a road map to attack Islamic madrasas and conspiracies hatched regularly to close them down. Students of Pasmanda community are there also and even majority of their teachers include Pasmanda Muslims.

The newspaper said that it is during Modi regime that Urdu language and Central institutions linked to it suffered maximum damages. When the Modi government stopped all advertisements in Urdu newspapers, its effect was mostly felt on Pasmanda people. Meanwhile, how much truth is there in the claims being made about connecting Pasmanda community to BJP is a matter of investigation. However, if Modi ji wants, he can improve his old policy. It should start with the scholarships being given to Maulana Azad Education Society, which was stopped by the Modi government. This is because its biggest effect was on the

students belonging to Pasmada community. Hence these scholarships should be reinstated. What one could see now is that even in the meetings of BJP, the Pasmada people are not given due importance. They are send off the stage. In such a situation, just saying that our party stands with Pasmada Muslims, does not work.



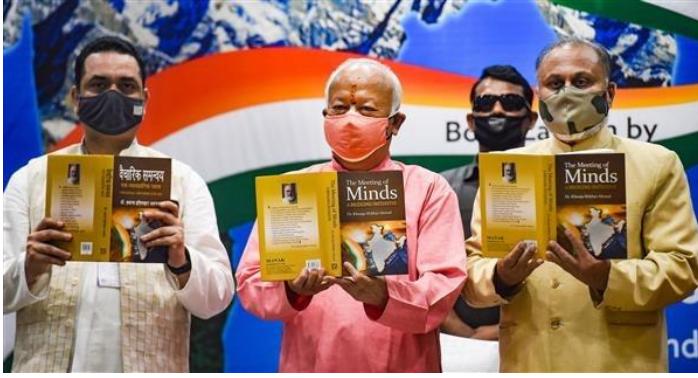
Salar (January 29) states that at one level, former president of Congress Rahul Gandhi is about to complete his Bharat Jodo Yatra against unemployment, price rise and hatred. At another level, the ruling BJP is making efforts to divide the votes of minority communities so that it can come back to power for the third time. The decision to promote a particular religion through tableaux at the Republic Day Parade and the invitation extended to the President of Egypt as special guest look like steps in that direction. At one level, one could see the Prime Minister talking about Pasmada Muslims. At another level, secret talks are being held with Muslim leaders at the behest of RSS. The report is that a delegation of Muslim thinkers and Islamic scholars recently met the office-bearers holding responsibility in Sangh. All these were done in a very silent manner. This meeting took place on January 14 and it continued for three hours. The Muslims got worried over the meeting. This is because no information has been given about this meeting. Whereas, as per media reports, talks were held on the recent interview given by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, controversies over the Gyan Vapi Masjid in Varanasi, Shahi Idgah Masjid in Mathura, mob lynching and cow slaughter.

As per reports, it has been agreed upon at the meeting that talks will continue over maintaining harmony. In the meeting held at the Daryaganj residence of Delhi's former Lt Governor Najeeb Jung, RSS leaders Krishna Gopal, Ramlal and Indresh Kumar took part. Whereas on behalf of

Muslims, Najeeb Jung, former Chief Election Commissioner Dr S Y Quraishi, former MP Shahid Siddiqui, industrialist Saeed Sherwani, Malik Motasim Khan from Jamaat-e-Islami, Maulana Niyaz Farooqi from Jamiat Ulema's Mahmood Madani faction, Fazlur Rahman Qasmi from Jamiat's Arshad Madani faction, Salman Chishti of Ajmer Sharif were among those who took part.

As per the report, Shahid Siddiqui said it has been agreed in the meeting that both the sides will continue with their efforts to create harmony in the society and a bigger meeting will be organized very soon. Shahid Siddiqui also said that the Muslim side had raised the issue of the recent interview of RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, and in reply to this, the Sangh leaders read out the Hindi interview published in Panchajanya. A leader of the Sangh said that after hearing this interview, those on the Muslim side also admitted that the interview of RSS chief was published in a distorted manner. When the issues of Varanasi and Mathura were raised, it was said on behalf of the Muslim side that the solution to these controversies could be found through the courts. The Muslims also said that if the government formulates a law banning cow slaughter, then they will support it. It is to be noted that RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat held a meeting with a delegation of Muslims last year also, on August 22.

Salar (January 27) has published an article by the general secretary of Muslim Personal Law Board, Maulana Khalid



Saifullah Rahmani, in which it has been said that the Sangh Parivar is looking for backward castes among Muslims. Rahmani expressed happiness that there is an awakening in Hindu community against Brahmins over Ramcharitmanas. However, the Godi media is trying to drag Islam and Muslims also into this, which has not succeeded.

Rehmani also mentioned that the BJP is arguing only for Pasmanda caste among Muslims and the higher castes and it hopes that this will lead to division of Muslim votes which will benefit the party. It is likely that some Muslims are declared as Pasmanda and given help in order to reap political benefits. However, for Muslims, it will prove more harmful than being beneficial. The Muslims need to understand that this division is against Islam and such a thing is due to the influence of Hindu society. In spite of this, casteism is not that deep-rooted among Muslims that one Muslim will think of another Muslim as of lower class just because he was born in a Pasmanda community. It is not that Masjids are reserved only for Syeds and Sheikhs, and members of other sects are not allowed to enter. It is also not that if the Imam is an Ansari or Nadaf, then the Mughal and Pathan would refuse to offer namaz behind them.

Inquilab (January 2), has published a lengthy interview of a Muslim thinker, Khwaja Iftikhar Ahmad. He is the only Muslim whose book 'The Meeting of Minds' was released by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat. It is after this programme that the

Muslim intellectuals' series of meetings with the RSS chief started. Many Muslims say that Khwaja Iftikhar had his role behind such meetings. Khwaja expressed happiness that he made an effort to bridge the 95-year-old gap between Muslims and the RSS. When he was asked why he established contacts with Sangh leaders despite knowing

about the Sangh ideology, Khwaja said that the BJP is in power for the past eight years. The Prime Minister was an RSS pracharak. I felt that since he has reached such a high position after coming out of a training house, then let's talk to them. Hence it has been decided talks shall be held with Sangh leaders instead of government to find solution to the problems being faced by Muslims.

Khwaja said that it is a fact that the power is in the hands of RSS. Even the Prime Minister gets directions from there. Sangh is the biggest organisation in Bharat. Crores of people are associated with this organisation. It is visible in all places. Now this Hindutva perspective is in power. However, I have no hesitation in saying that this perspective is different from that of Gandhi.

Khwaja was asked how long this situation would continue. In reply to it, Khwaja said that nobody has imposed this situation, instead it came into existence through a democratic process. The Hindu majority of this country handed over the Prime Minister's post to the spokesman of Hindutva perspective. But spreading hatred through this perspective would be a stupidity. The solution to the problem is with them, and the Muslims need to contact them to find solution to the problem. The meeting can be held with anyone any time, but there is no question of compromising with faith and honesty. I congratulate Mohan Bhagwat because he not only welcomed my harsh talk but also said that we will take all necessary steps to reach the destination through the path you suggested.



Khawaja admitted that no such Muslim leader has been left now, who has not met the leaders of Sangh.

Inquilab (January 19) states that the chief of All India Momin Conference, Maulana Abul Kalam Qasmi, while welcoming the positive steps being undertaken by the Prime Minister for Muslims, said that the Muslim society should welcome it. Because this will open the path to find solution to the problems of Muslims and if we do not change our viewpoint, then the Muslims will not remain anywhere. The Prime Minister of the country is the Prime Minister of all of us and hence if he takes any step to improve the situation of Muslims, then we need to welcome it.

As per another report published in this newspaper, senior lawyer of Supreme Court Z K Faizan said in a statement that the term Pasmanda Muslim being used by the Prime Minister once again is just a political play and this term is being used to deliberately divide the Muslim community. The Bharatiya Janata Party has been consistently trying to divide Muslims on caste basis. This statement of the Prime Minister is a part of that plan. Former Union Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has welcomed this direction given by the Prime Minister to his party leaders not to issue any controversial statements regarding Muslims.

Avadhnama (January 21) has carried an article by Dr Abid Rahman, in which it has been asked how come an anti-

Muslim party like BJP suddenly developed sympathy and concern for Pasmanda Muslims. It is being said that Pasmanda Muslims were behind the victory of BJP in the Lok Sabha bypolls held in Rampur and Azamgarh. Hence the BJP has launched a special campaign to bring Pasmanda Muslims further close to the party in North India. However, the BJP has no special plan to woo them. That is why they are mentioning about the same social welfare programmes which were launched during the time of the previous governments and claim that their benefits did not reach Muslims. Even today, there seems to be no change in the stand of the government. We feel that Modi ji is also aware of this and the aim of his sympathy towards Pasmanda Muslims is not their welfare, instead on collecting their votes.

Avadhnama (January 30) has published an article written by renowned journalist Zafar Agha in which it has been said that now it has become very clear that the BJP and Sangh are trying to divide the Muslim votes and they have succeeded in it. These two organisations have infiltrated every Muslim group. Zafar Agha said that only one power has been left in the hands of Indian Muslims and that is their consolidated vote bank. The reason is that if the Muslim vote remains united, then it could influence the poll outcome in nearly 100 Lok Sabha seats. The Muslim vote bank is important in Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka and Delhi. In many seats,

Muslim voters constitute 35-40% and in some places it is more than 60%. However, this Muslim vote bank is effective only if it remains united and they vote unitedly to just one party. This ground reality is a major threat to both the Sangh and BJP. This is because if the Hindu vote bank gets divided on caste-community basis or due to some other reasons and the Muslim vote remains united, then it could drastically change the results of Lok Sabha elections.



It is evident that this situation is more than enough to threaten right from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat. That is why that the two have devised a plan to divide the Muslim voters before the Lok Sabha elections in 2024 and has become active to put a hole in the Muslim vote bank in a well-planned manner. They have intensified their efforts to infiltrate every Muslim sect. This is the reason why a few months ago, during the national executive meeting of BJP in Hyderabad, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged its cadre that they specially focus on the votes of Muslims and also advised them that they intensify their work among Pasmenda Muslims.

Following this, in order to achieve this aim, the Sangh Parivar intensified its series of meetings with the so-called intellectuals of Muslim community. The BJP has earmarked those seats in Lok Sabha where the Muslim voters are capable of changing the results. Earlier, the Sangh Parivar tried to divide the Muslim votes with the help of Sufis. Now at a meeting held at the residence of Najeeb Jung in Delhi, not only Jamaat-e-Islami, the representatives of both the groups of Jamiat Ulema also took part. The group comprising Najeeb Jung, S Y Quraishi and Shaheed Siddiqui are actively involved in turning the middle-class educated Muslims towards BJP. In the name of education, this group had formed an organisation in the

past itself to connect Muslims to BJP. This apart, there are many people active among Pasmenda Muslims as well, which includes Uttar Pradesh's Muslim minister Danish Azad Ansari.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 19) in its editorial said that in the next few months, Assembly elections will be held in nine states in the country and hence BJP president J P Nadda has directed the workers of his party that they make efforts to win the Assembly election in every state and leave no stone unturned. However, the statement that Prime Minister Modi had given, that is more important than this statement of Nadda. If the statement of the Prime Minister is implemented, then there would be a new turn in the politics of BJP. He had directed the cadre of his party that they do not make any controversial statements about Muslims. However, the slogan that he had given earlier, 'Sabke Saath, Sabka Vikas aur Sabka Vishwas' has not been implemented and instead a campaign has been launched against Muslims.

The newspaper said that the Modi government has not only promoted violence against Muslims but has also launched a campaign to financially squeeze Muslims. Later, a drive was also launched to interfere with the religion of Muslims. Its first indication was the triple talaq. After this, Surya Namaskar, Yoga and Bhagwat Gita lessons were also imposed on Muslims. In the name of conversion, Ulema was arrested and masjids and madrasas were targeted. The houses of Muslims were razed using bulldozer and

this situation continues till now. But despite this, we welcome the statement of the Prime Minister and we are hopeful that it doesn't remain limited to a statement and it will be implemented.

Hamara Samaj (January 21) in its editorial has welcomed the direction of the Prime Minister where he had asked the workers of his party that they should not issue any controversial or wrong statements on Muslims and instead go to Muslims and try to improve their relationship with them and especially give special attention to Pasmada Muslims. The question here is why the BJP is finally concerned about Muslims now? What is the reason behind this? Observers say that since Hindu voters are getting disillusioned with BJP, the party wants to actively pursue the votes of Muslims.

The newspaper said that in the parliamentary elections held after 2009, there is a consistent rise in the number of Muslim votes that the BJP was getting. In the 2014 elections, the party got 9% votes of Muslims, which increased to more than 20% in 2019. Now the party wants to increase it further.

Hamara Samaj (January 16) in its editorial said that the victims of RSS' Muslim enmity were always the Muslims.

The RSS, which describes itself as apolitical, and its affiliated organisations had always rejected this allegation. An indication has been given through the different statements of RSS Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat from different platforms in the past few years, that there is a change in the perspective of RSS with regard to Muslims and the cooperation of Muslims is very important for the progress of the nation. He had also said that searching for Shivlings in masjids and idgahs should stop. After this statement, the Muslims also felt that now the situation has improved. Soon, he once again took a U-turn by whatever he said about Muslims in an interview to Panchjanya and Organiser. From that it is clear that the RSS has not gone back even by a single step from Guru Golwalkar's Vicharadhara and even today they are not willing to tolerate Muslims. Haryana is an example of this. The government has allotted land to Muslims to build mosques and Idgah and there also the mischievous elements have been regularly creating obstacles in their construction. Recently, English newspaper 'The Hindu' had published a detailed report in this connection which has exposed the Muslim enmity of Haryana government and its officials.

Row over screening BBC documentary

Mumbai Urdu News (January 22) reports that the different YouTube channels that aired the video on the first part of BBC documentary 'India: The Modi Question' have been blocked at the behest of Union Ministry for Information and Broadcasting. This apart, the Central government has ordered blocking of more than 50 tweets linked to the documentary. According to government sources, the secretary of Union Ministry for Information and Broadcasting had issued this direction under IT Act 2021. This controversial documentary was made by the BBC. The Ministry of External Affairs has described it as part of a propaganda against Indian government and said that it looks like it has been

uploaded with the purpose of promoting anti-India agenda.

The government has described this film as an attack on the authority and institution of the Supreme Court of the country and said that this documentary could damage the sovereignty and integrity of the nation. In the country, not only the peaceful atmosphere could be disrupted, it could even negatively affect India's friendly relationship with foreign countries. It is to be noted that in the documentary, the BBC states that there is an atmosphere of mistrust between India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Muslims in the country. In the documentary, questions are raised over the role of Prime Minister Modi



in the 2002 Gujarat riots. In the documentary, it has also been stressed that an investigation shall be conducted to find out that what all steps the Modi government have taken to harass Muslims after winning the 2019 elections.

Etemaad (January 25) reports that despite the Central government banning the documentary, it has been screened on behalf of different political parties in Kerala. On the other hand, the youth wing of the BJP opposed it and took out protest marches in different places. The interesting thing is that the BJP got support from an unexpected corner. Son of senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister A. K. Antony, Anil Antony, opposed screening of the documentary and he resigned from Congress party in protest. The youth wing of CPI (M), DYFI, created a political storm by declaring through its Facebook page that it will screen this controversial documentary in the entire state. Later, the student wing of CPI also made a similar announcement. The Youth Congress also announced public screening of this controversial documentary. The BJP has urged the Chief Minister of Kerala to intervene immediately and told him to impose a ban on showing of this documentary in the state.

Avadhnama (January 28) reports that a huge ruckus took place in Delhi University also over screening of this

documentary. Following this, the Delhi Police imposed Section 144 outside the Arts Faculty and took several students into custody. North Delhi DCP Sagar Singh Kalsi said that nobody will be permitted to disturb peace and 24 people have been taken into custody on charges of screening the controversial documentary. A spokesperson of Delhi University said that no permission was given to screen the controversial documentary. However, some students watched the documentary on their laptops and mobile phones. The Central government had imposed a ban on this documentary. However, despite this, the students of some universities screened the documentary. Huge ruckus took place in Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jamia Milia Islamia, Hyderabad University, Panjab University and Aligarh Muslim University over screening of the documentary. Some student organisations in Delhi's Ambedkar University had also announced screening of this documentary. Following this, the university administration snapped electricity supply. The students got infuriated. Students at Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai also made a plan to screen the controversial documentary. However, the administration refused to grant permission for the same.

Aurangabad Times (January 26) reports that the Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Milia Islamia, Dr Najma Akhtar, has made



it clear that no permission will be given to screen this documentary on the premises of the university and stringent action will be taken against those students who violate the rules. The student's union has claimed that the police have taken into custody more than 70 students and they have not been released yet.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 28) reports that the Students Federation of India has screened this controversial documentary at Hyderabad University. In retaliation to it, the film 'Kashmir Files' was screened at the behest of Vidhyarthi Parishad. At Jadavpur University in West Bengal also this documentary was screened on behalf of Students Federation of India.

Etemaad (January 25) states that in Jawaharlal Nehru University, in order to stop the screening of the documentary, the administration cut off electricity supply and the internet. However, the student's union displayed it on laptops and mobiles, following which clashes took place between two groups of students. Chairperson of student's union, Aishe Ghosh accused the JNU administration of being a puppet in the hands of the ruling party. According to newspapers, there were also reports of stone-pelting between two groups of students.

Avadhnama (January 25) in its editorial has condemned the ban imposed on the documentary by the Central government and asked didn't any riots take place in Gujarat in 2002? Didn't more than

1,000 people were killed in the riots? Didn't Best Bakery was set on fire? Didn't Bilkis Bano's rape take place? Didn't the then prime minister Atal Behari Vajpayee say that in Gujarat the 'Raj dharma' was not observed? The Supreme Court has refused to hear the Gujarat riots case, does it mean that no discussions will take place in the country on this issue? This film by

BBC has freshened the wounds of Gujarat riots.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 22) has published an article written by Shakil Rashid in which it has been said that the BBC has presented the facts and has not give an opinion of its own. The Modi government has been claiming time and again that its policies are not anti-Muslim. The BBC has raised a question mark on this claim. This is because the Gujarat riots was always a sensitive issue for Modi and hence whenever it was mentioned, fingers were pointed at Modi. Now the entire machinery has been deployed for his rescue. That is why there is heartburn on the side of the government. The court has now stopped hearing the Gujarat riots cases. However, the BBC documentary has once again brought the bloody history before the people. Despite efforts to distort the history as much as possible, neither it nor its truth could be stopped.

Hamara Samaj (January 30) in its editorial said the Jawaharlal Nehru University imposed a ban on the screening of this controversial documentary due to pressure from the government. But now the situation is such that the students from more than a dozen universities across the country screened this film, sounding the drums of their Constitutional rights. The people were not even aware that the Modi and company has silently conveyed to the majority community in the country that

Modi is the Bhagwan of this age. He has been sent to uplift the Hindu religion and he is continuously doing his work. In Gujarat, the killing of Muslims is a moment of proud for Sanatani Hindus and they will get the votes of ordinary Hindus as long as they continue with their religious war against Muslims.

The voters of Modi think that even this BBC documentary would do favour to them. This is because 18-year-old and 20-year-old youths have not seen the Gujarat riots of 2002. Hence they think of this as

religious war. The country's atmosphere in the past 20 years is such that every attack on Team Modi is taken as an attack on their faith by the bhakts.

Hamara Samaj (January 26) in its editorial said that the ruckus that has been created in the country over this documentary raises a question as to what is there in the BBC documentary that the government is getting scared of, and had to impose a ban on it, while our Prime Minister Modi has been cleared of all allegations in the court.

Barelvīs thrashed in Ajmer dargah



Inquilab (January 31) reports that the office-bearers of Bareilly dargah are unhappy with Salman Hasan Khan, vice-chairman of Jamat Raza-e-Mustafa, an organisation of Barelvi Muslims, for some time now. Following a controversy that took place in Ajmer recently, this issue has become more serious. Chairman of the Barelvi Dargah Trust Maulana Mohammad Kaif Raza Khan, in a statement to the media, said the khadims in Ajmer Sharif dargah had thrashed the Barelvīs. Even after this, it is unbelievable that the vice-chairman of Jamat-e-Raza Mustafa, Salman Khan, got the dastarbandi (turban-tying) done by the khadims of the dargah. At one level, the followers of Barelvi sect have been thrashed in the dargah. On the other hand, Salman Hasan Khan has invited these attackers to Barelvi.

Kaif Raza said that the chairman of Ittehad-e-Millet Council had gone to Ajmer

with the message of unity ahead of the Urs festival, but all kinds of allegations were levelled against him. Salman need to reply as to why he went to Ajmer Sharif to meet Sarvar Chishti? From whom did he take permission to go there? He demanded that Salman Hasan Khan should be removed from the post of the vice-chairman.

It is to be noted that ahead of Urs, after offering prayers at the dargah of Khwaja Garib Nawaz, a group of Barelvi followers started praising Ala Hazrat Raza Shah and raised slogans in favour of Ala Hazrat. Soon, the khadims of Ajmer Sharif entered Shahjahani masjid and brutally thrashed the Barelvīs, injuring many. It is being said that those who launched the attack were students of Taj al-Shariah. There is so much anger among the Barelvi sect on the manner in which the Barelvīs were thrashed in the dargah. From a post that went viral on social media, there is an indication that there are huge differences between Ajmer Sharif and the followers of Barelvi dargah. Recently, Maulana Tauqeer Raza Khan made an attempt to resolve these differences and he went to Ajmer where he held a meeting with Sarvar Chishti. It is being said that the khadims at Ajmer Sharif had objections on praising Ala Hazrat of Barelvi dargah and hence they clashed with them.

Row over changing the name of Mughal Garden



Inquilab (January 29) states that the Union government has changed the name of Mughal Garden located at Rashtrapati Bhawan to Amrit Udyan. It is being said that the government wanted to change the name in tune with the theme of Amrit Mahotsav on the completion of 75 years of Independence. However, after the BJP came to power at the Centre, many names have been changed, the reason for which people think there is political hatred. Some time ago, the government had changed Aurangzeb Road in Delhi to A P J Abdul Kalam Road. Similarly, the name of Kotla Feroz Shah Stadium has been changed to Arun Jaitley Stadium. Planning Commission's name has been changed to Niti Aayog and Race Course's name has been changed to Lok Kalyan Marg. The Mughal Garden at Rashtrapati Bhawan is a major centre of attraction for visitors. The inauguration of the new name Amrit Udyan was done by the President herself. Before this, the Yogi government in Uttar Pradesh

had also changed the Muslim names of several cities and railway stations.

Comment: The Mughal Garden's name was changed just before the Rashtrapati Bhawan day. When the first President of the country, Dr Rajendra Prasad, arrived to stay at the old Viceroy House on February 1, 1950, it was on his directions that the Mughal Garden in Rashtrapati Bhawan was thrown open to ordinary people every year. The Mughal Garden, which is spread over 15 acres, got ready within a year in 1928. Viceroy Lord Irwin came to stay here in February 6, 1929. The design of Mughal Garden was done by the main architect of Rashtrapati Bhawan, Edward Lytens in 1917 itself. The landscaping of Mughal Garden was prepared by the director of garden department, William Robert Mustoe. One could see the beautiful blending of British and Mughal garden style here. There are 150 species of flowers in the garden. Two special flower species in the name of

former US President Abraham Lincoln and Mother Teresa were also developed in this garden.

According to informed sources, after the Mughals came to India, they adopted the Charbagh model of Perisa to develop gardens. In this model, the garden is not on one level, instead it is arranged in different stages with different heights in a gradually decreasing order. The important gardens developed by the Mughals on this style include the Nishant Bagh, Shalimar Bagh, Sikander Bagh, Humayun's Tomb, the Taj garden at Taj Mahal and the Pinjore garden near Chandigarh. The British had developed Talkatora Garden in Delhi also on this same model. This model was adopted to develop the Bagh of Viceroy Lodge and it was given the name Mughal Garden. Initially, the Hindu Mahasabha had demanded a change in Mughal Garden's name in 2019. They said that its name shall be changed to Dr Rajendra Prasad Udyan. However, their demand was not accepted. Like the Mughal gardens, there is a system of canals and piers in it. Every President of the country had made improvements in the garden on his or her own way during their time. Recently, Ayurvedic herbs were also introduced in the garden.

Inquilab (January 31) states that the issue of changing the name of the historical Mughal Garden situated at Rashtrapati Bhawan in capital Delhi has not ended as the name of the Mughal Garden on the premises of Delhi University has also been changed to Gautam Buddh Shatabdi Udyan. An official of Delhi University said that the decision to change the name was



taken by the garden committee of the university. A murti of Gautam Buddha was also placed in the middle of the bagh of the university.

Roznama Sahara (January 30) reports that the chief of Bahujan Samaj Party Mayawati asked whether the problems of people will be resolved by changing the name of Mughal Garden? These kinds of steps are being taken in order to divert the attention of people from problems like increasing price rise, unemployment and poverty. This way, the government is making efforts to hide its failures.

Inquilab (January 31) states that Islamic scholar Dr Zafarul Islam Khan said the Mughal Garden was not built by the Mughal kings, instead the British had named the bagh built at Viceroy House as Mughal Garden as a tribute to the great memories of Mughal rule. The government is walking on the agenda of Hindutva and they are taking such bad steps in order to erase the great history of Mughal rulers. Social worker Shabnam Hashmi also opposed changing of the name of Mughal Garden and said it reflects the poor mentality of the present government. By changing the name, one cannot put a veil on the great history of Mughal rule and neither its memories could be erased from the minds of people.

Propaganda against Assam government



Mumbai Urdu News (January 29) has claimed that Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had said that in the next five to six months, those thousands of men would be arrested who had married girls below the age of 14 years. As per law, maintaining physical relationship with a girl below the age of 14 is illegal, whether she is his wife or not. While addressing a function, Sarma said that the legal age for girls to marry is 18 years. The government wants to stop the marriage of minors and in this connection, action will be taken against all those found guilty.

It is to be noted that the Assam cabinet has decided that cases shall be registered under Pocso Act against those who marry girls below the age of 14. In Islam, no minimum age has been prescribed for girls to get married and nikah could be conducted with a girl of any age. However, as per Shariah, in order to maintain physical relationship with a girl, she has to attain puberty.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 13) reports that the Assam Madrasa Regulatory Authority has decided to merge all small

madrasas with bigger madrasas. As per a survey, there are more than 400 unrecognised madrasas in the state where the number of students is less than 50. General Secretary of All Assam Tanzim Madaris Qawmiya, Maulana Abdul Qadir Quasimi said that there is lot of disquiet among Muslims due to this decision of the government. This is because the stand of Assam government is against Muslims and Islam. Director General of Assam Police, Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta said

that since small madrasas are being used to promote terrorism, they are being merged with bigger madrasas. As per government policy, there will be only one madrasa in a three kilometre area. He said that terrorist organisations like Ansar Ullah and Al Qaida are increasingly spreading their network in the state and last year 53 Islamic terrorists were arrested in Assam.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 11) reports that in the name of liberating forest land from encroachment, the Assam government has made more than 200 Bangla-speaking Muslims homeless and their houses were demolished using bulldozers. A 55-year-old woman who became homeless claimed that she has been staying in the house for more than 30 years.

As per another report published in the same newspaper on January 13, in the name of liberating government land from encroachments, 300 Muslim families had been rendered homeless. All India Minority Student Union had described this government campaign as one-sided and based on religious hatred.

Row over Quran-burning in European nations



Siasat (January 23) reports that after getting permission from the government to hold anti-Islam protests in Sweden, Quran was set ablaze outside the Turkiye embassy in Stockholm and anti-Islam slogans were also raised. As per media reports, in protest against the burning of Quran, Turkey has cancelled the visit of Swedish Defence Minister Paul Johnson to Turkiye. It is to be noted that Turkiye has been opposing the induction of Sweden into NATO alliance because Sweden is promoting anti-Islam elements in that country. In protest against this policy, the right wing extremists in Sweden held a protest outside the Turkiye embassy in Stockholm and said that if Muslims want freedom of expression in Sweden then they should not stay in Sweden and stay somewhere else.

External Affairs Minister of Sweden Tobias Billstrom has condemned these protests and said that the rising sentiments against Islam is dangerous. The freedom of expression in Sweden doesn't mean that we support such protests. Foreign Minister of Turkey Mevlut Cavusoglu said that Turkiye had urged Swedish government earlier itself not to give permission to anti-

Islam protests. However, our request went unheeded. Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have condemned the desecration of Quran.

Siasat (January 30) reports that after Sweden, Quran was burnt near a masjid in Denmark as well. A right wing leader named Rasmus Paludan reached a masjid in Denmark, near Turkish embassy in a police car and set fire to Quran there. It is to be noted that this man had burnt Quran in Sweden before this incident. This man has the citizenship of both Denmark and Sweden. After this incident, huge protests took place outside the embassies of Sweden and Denmark in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. Before this, in Netherlands also the copies of Quran were burnt on January 23.

Etemaad (January 23) reports that the General Secretary of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Hissein Brahim Taha, while condemning the burning of Quran, said that it was a serious blow to the 2 billion Muslims of the world. He said that it is condemnable that the Swedish government has given permission to insult



Islam on the pretext of freedom of expression.

Avadhnama (January 30) reports that thousands of Muslims held massive protests in London and raised anti-government slogans in protest against burning of Quran in European nations.

Salar (January 29) states that huge protests were held in dozens of Muslim nations against burning of Quran in European nations. In the Lebanese capital of Beirut, the flags of Sweden and Netherlands were burned outside the Blue Dome Mosque. Iraq's Shia leader Muqtada Al-Sadr said that the God will wreak havoc on those who burned Quran. Chief of Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Arshad Madani, while condemning the burning of Quran, said that it was a diabolic act and from this it is clear that in Europe, secularism is just a pretense. The rage of feeling against Islam there is condemnable.

Salar (January 28) states that the Al-Azhar University in Egypt has condemned the desecration of Quran in Sweden and Netherlands and urged Muslim nations that they boycott items manufactured in these countries. In a statement issued by Al Azhar University, it has been stated that all Islamic nations should unite and condemn such activity.

The Ambassadors of OIC held an emergency meeting at United Nations against the burning of Quran. Presiding over this meeting, Pakistan's Ambassador

Muneer Akram said that Islamophobia is a reality, which the Muslims of the world need to oppose unitedly.

According to the newspaper, massive protests took place in Turkiye, Qatar, Indonesia, Algeria, Uganda, Iraq, Jordan and Yemen against desecration of Quran. In Iran and Afghanistan also the burning of Quran was condemned amid massive protests.

Quami Tanzeem (January 23) reports that a special meeting of Muslim World League took place in Saudi Arabia where, while condemning this incident, the governments were urged to take stringent action against the accused persons. General Secretary of the organisation, Dr Mohammad bin Abdul Karim Isa, has alleged that an anti-Islam atmosphere is being deliberately created. The United Nations also condemned this incident.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 24) reports that during an emergency meeting of Raza Academy, its chief Mohammad Sayed Noori said that we will not tolerate insult to Islam under any circumstance and we will sacrifice our lives for the protection of Quran. He urged all Muslim nations in the world to withdraw their diplomatic relationship with the countries where the Quran was burned.

Hamara Samaj (January 24) states that Pakistan Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif also condemned this incident and said that the atmosphere of hatred being created against Islam in Europe is quite dangerous.

Avadhnama (January 24) reports that the chairman of Majlis-e-Ulema-e-Hind, Maulana Kalbe Jawad has described the burning of Quran as a barbaric action.

Over 100 policemen killed in attack on masjid in Pakistan



TPP has taken responsibility for the attack. The newspaper has written that the masjid where this blast took place is located in police line in Peshawar and when the blast took place, nearly 700 policemen were offering namaz there. Police commissioner Riyaz Mahsood said that the masjid got destroyed in the blast and many people got

According to Pakistani newspaper **Jung** (January 31), at least 100 policemen were killed and more than 400 policemen were injured in a terrorist attack on a masjid in Peshawar. In an editorial, Jung described the administration as responsible for this incident and said that the government had claimed that due to threat from Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, (TTP), the security arrangements had been tightened across the country. However, despite this, how come the terrorists reached the masjid at police line? On the other hand, the government claimed that four barricades were erected for the protection of this masjid where the police had made a stringent system for security search.

The newspaper said the TTP had announced to end the peace agreement that it had signed with the government last month, and had also threatened that they would target security personnel and police. Following this, the Pakistan government had made some tall claims. However, the blast that took place at the masjid in Peshwar has exposed the bogus claims of the government.

Inquilab (January 31) reports that the blast was carried out by suicide attackers. According to Pakistani news channel 'Geo News,' banned organisation

trapped in it, and efforts were on to take them out. Confirming this news, police chief in Peshawar, Mohammad Ijaz Khan said that when the blast took place, nearly 500 policemen were offering namaz in the masjid and all of them became the target of the terrorist attack. It is difficult to say how many were killed.

According to hospital sources, more than 100 bodies were brought to the hospital. An Emergency has been declared in entire Pakistan. More than 350 injured policemen were admitted to hospitals. The Pakistani government appealed to citizens to donate blood to save the lives of injured policemen. Pakistan Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif condemned the incident and said that brutally killing Muslims who were offering namaz is against the values of Quran and Islam. From this it is clear that those responsible for this attack have nothing to do with Islam.

Roznama Sahara (January 22) states that Pakistan's foreign affairs minister Bilawal Bhutto Sardari said that the Pakistan government will not hold any talks with TTP. He expressed hope that the Taliban government in Afghanistan would take strong action against terrorists operating from their land.

Attack on Hindu temples in Australia



Roznama Sahara (January 24) reports that there is a huge increase in incidents of attack on Hindu temples in Australia in the past few days. Expressing concern over the attacks, Canberra-situated Indian embassy demanded the Australian government to take stringent measures to stop the activities of Khalistanis. The Indian High Commission said that recently three temples were attacked and damaged in Melbourne. This is a clear effort to sow the seeds of hatred and division in the multi-religious Australian society. The High Commission said the indication is that the Khalistani supporters are stepping up their activities in Australia and they are getting help from terrorist organisations like 'Sikh for Justice.'

The High Commission said that it had drawn the attention of the Australian

government to a ploy by the 'Sikh for Justice' to do a referendum for Khalistan in Melbourne. The Indian High Commission urged the Australian government to take effective steps for protection of Indians and their property and curb those elements using the Australian soil

to damage the unity of India.

It is to be noted that recently, three Hindu temples were attacked in Melbourne and their murties were destroyed. It is being said that Khalistan supporters are behind these incidents. Slogans against India the Modi government were found scribbled on the temples and rallies were also taken out in support of terrorist Jarnail Singh Bhindranwala. There is lot of resentment among the Hindus in Australia due to these incidents. It is being said that the Khalistani terrorists had devised a plan to organize a rally in Melbourne in support of Khalistan. It is to be noted that the Khalistani supporters are very active in Australia for the past two years and the Australian government has not taken any action against them so far.

Ban on liquor to stop crimes

Inquilab (January 26) reports that the Australian government has decided to impose a ban on sale of liquor in its central region in order to curb the increasing incidents of crime in the country. This ban has been imposed in regions nearly 200 kilometres away from the capital city. Due to this decision, there will be a total ban on the sale of liquor on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Whereas on other days also there will be restrictions on the sale of liquor. According to news agency 'Reuters,' the social activists in Australia felt that there is a huge increase in violent activities due to



liquor consumption and several problems related to health have come up.

Recently, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese visited a province called Alice Springs and held a meeting with the

leaders, police and social activists there. He said that if necessary, discussions will be held to impose a ban on the sale of liquor in other parts of the country as well in order to stop crimes. In the central regions of Australia, the original inhabitants are on a majority. According to government

sources, there is a 60% increase in crimes in the past one year. In this city which has a population of 25,000, more than 2,500 reports of attacks have been registered. It is to be noted that the law to ban sale of liquor was formulated in Australia in 2007, but has been implemented only now. ■

Pakistan Prime Minister's son released in money laundering case



Mumbai Urdu News (January 22) reports that Pakistan's Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has acquitted Suleman Shahbaz, son of Pakistan Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, in a Rs 16 billion money laundering case. The investigating agency has filed a chargesheet before a court in Lahore in this connection in which it has been said that Suleman and his colleague Tahir Naqvi were found not guilty during investigation.

It is to be noted that there has been a case against the two accused in a court in Lahore in which the two were declared as absconders. As per a report of the investigation agency, the investigating officers have searched 28 benami accounts

through which money laundering worth Rs 16 billion and 30 crore were done in the past 10 years.

In November 2020, the investigating agency had filed a case against Shahbaz Sharif and his sons Hamza and Suleman under anti-corruption law and under money laundering act. Shahbaz Sharif's son Suleman alleged in the court that the previous government had trapped him in a fake case due to political enmity. On this, the court released him on a bail bond of Rs 5 lakh on December 23, 2022. After this, Suleman went abroad and the court issued an arrest warrant against him. Now the investigating agency has withdrawn the case. ■

Huge tension between Israel and Palestine



Etemaad (January 16) reports that Oman's Grand Mufti Azam Sheikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al-Khalili said the freedom of Palestine and the protection of Masjid Al-Aqsa is the biggest duty of Muslims across the world and in order to perform this duty, Muslims should not hesitate to wage war against Israel. Today it is necessary that the Muslims from across the world come together and wipe out Israel and free Palestinians from the slavery of Jews. This apart, terrorist organization Hamas has announced that it would step up its armed struggle in order to provide the Palestinian people their rights and to liberate Israeli-occupied Palestinian regions. Hamas said they would not leave their land and holy places at the mercy of Jews. Al-Aqsa belongs to us and Israel has no right on it.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 30) reports that after the attack of Israel on the Jenin camp, there is an increase in suicide attacks by Palestinians. In the past 24 hours, at least five Palestinian suicide attacks were carried out in Israel in which dozens of Israelis were killed and more than 100 people were injured.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 29) states that eight Israelis were killed and 15 were injured in the firing by Palestinian

suicide attackers. It is being said that this firing was done by Palestinians in retaliation to the Israeli military's attack on Jenin camp, in which nine Palestinians were killed and at least 20 were killed. After this, clashes erupted between Palestinian Arabs and Israeli soldiers. Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described the Palestinian attack in Jerusalem as a grave step and that the Israeli military has launched action against the attackers and many people have been arrested.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 19) reports that Jordan's foreign ministry summoned the Israeli Ambassador and lodged a protest and said that stopping the Jordan Ambassador from entering Al Aqsa mosque is an open violation of international laws, which will not be tolerated.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 28) reports that Israeli soldiers stormed Gaza after killing nine Palestinians. Israeli fighter planes fired at least 15 missiles on Al-Maghazi and Al-Zaitoon refugee camps, following which a war-like situation loomed large between Israel and Palestine once again. China and France have demanded that an emergency session of

United Nations Security Council shall be called in order to stop the likely war. In retaliation to the attack on refugee camps, Palestinian Arabs fired dozens of rockets in Jewish region of Ashkelon, in which there were reports of the death and injuries to several persons.

Etemaad (January 23) states that the Palestinian government alleged that Israel is making interventions in the affairs of Masjid Al Aqsa after violating the agreement. It is a serious warning to two

billion Muslims of the world, which cannot be tolerated. Recently, Israel permitted Jewish extremists to offer Jewish way of namaz at Al Aqsa masjid. This apart, they are now giving permission for animal sacrifice in the masjid which is against Islamic values. Israeli soldiers are also stopping the Palestinians from entering the masjid and are not allowing them to offer namaz. Due to this aggressive action of Israel, there is an increased risk of war in the region.

Morocco opens its embassy in Baghdad after 18 years



Roznama Sahara (January 30) states that Morocco has announced restoration of diplomatic relationship with Iraq after a gap of two decades. Along with it, the Moroccan embassy has also been opened in Baghdad. It is to be noted that in 2005, the Moroccan government closed its embassy

in Baghdad due to the deteriorating security situation in Iraq.

Two decades later, diplomatic relationship has been reestablished between Rabat and Baghdad. Recently, Morocco's Foreign Affairs Minister Nasser Bourita visited Baghdad. After Bourita's visit to Baghdad, Iraq announced that a new era of economic cooperation will begin with the reestablishment of diplomatic relationship between the two countries. In a statement, Morocco's foreign ministry said that in 2005, the Morocco embassy in Baghdad was closed because Al Qaida had kidnapped two officials of the Moroccan embassy and killed them.

Israel ready for nuclear attack on Iran

Roznama Sahara (January 17) states that Israeli Army has claimed that if its government issues order, then it is ready to launch a nuclear strike on Iran without lapsing even a second. According to Al Arabia News, a senior officer of Israel Army said that Iran's nuclear site is on their target. As soon as our government gives the indication, we will attack the site

and damage it or eliminate it. Israel alleged that at the behest of Iran, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq have stepped up preparations for war. Hence the threat to Israel has increased.

Roznama Sahara (January 28) states that Israel President Isaac Herzog urged NATO nations that they toughen their stand against Iran. This is because

Iran is supplying drones to Russia to fight against Ukraine. Since NATO has not taken this danger seriously, the threat has now reached Europe from the borders of Ukraine. Nowadays, the US and Israel are jointly holding military exercises. The President said that NATO should not ignore the aggressive intent of Iran any longer and other sanctions shall also be imposed on it apart from economic sanctions.



It is to be noted that NATO nations are putting pressure on Israel so that it supports NATO against Russia in the Ukraine war. However, till now, Israel has refused to supply arms and ammunition to Ukraine. This is because it doesn't want to annoy Russia. However, the President of

Israel said their heart is with Ukraine. This is because they are fighting to protect their nation. Secondly, the NATO Secretary General said the aim of Israel President's recent visit to the United States was to strengthen the military ties between the two countries and very soon an important agreement is likely to be signed between Israel and NATO.

Protest against Saudi's decision to hang Islamic scholar



Siasat (January 21) reports that Saudi Arabia is preparing to hang a world renowned Islamic scholar on charges of disturbing peace. This renowned Islamic scholar's name is Awad Al-Qarni, who had opposed the appointment of Mohammad bin Salman as the Crown Prince in September 2017. Following this, he was arrested. Ever since he has been lodged in a

Saudi jail. The son of Awad Al-Qarni, Nassir, who has taken refuge in Britain lately, accused the Saudi government of making preparations to hang his father.

Recently, a government lawyer had accused Awad Al-Qarni of being a supporter of Ikhwanul Muslimeen (Muslim Brotherhood) in a Saudi court and that he is against Saudi government. The government

lawyer also said this Islamic scholar is provoking people against the Saudi ruler and is making preparations to disturb peace in Saudi Arabia. With this purpose, he has incited the people of Saudi Arabia to revolt against the ruler. The Saudi government, while refusing to make any comment in this connection, said the matter against Al-Qarni is before the court and action will be taken against him as per Saudi rules.

Mumbai Urdu News (January 19) states that the Saudi government that runs on pressure from the Jews has awarded death sentence to scholar of Alam-e-Islam,

Awad Al-Qarni, and he will soon be hanged to death in some unknown jail. It is mentioned in the report that the Saudi government is violating Islamic tradition due to the pressure of US and Israel and those Islamic scholars who oppose them are thrown into jails by the Saudi government. Hundreds of world-renowned Islamic scholars are in jail nowadays, because they have opposed the rulers who have thrown to winds Quran, Sunnat and Shariah in the name of liberal Islam. Before this, also several Islamic scholars were secretly hanged to death.

Campaign against supporters of ISIS

Etemaad (January 28) states that a court in Iraq has awarded death sentence to 14 persons belonging to ISIS for killing hundreds of soldier cadets (soldiers undergoing training) in 2014. According to government sources, the terrorists of ISIS kidnapped 1,700 Shia cadets from Tikrit military station in June 2014 and committed their mass murder. Now a court in Baghdad has awarded them death sentence.

It is to be noted that earlier, 36 others were hanged to death on charges of belonging to ISIS. The government states that after the terrorists of ISIS seized power in Iraq, they killed hundreds of people who were buried in mass graves.

However, the government has not declared the data on the number of prisoners belonging to ISIS, but the United Nations had claimed in 2018 that nearly 12,000 people belonging to ISIS are lodged in jails in Iraq. Earlier last year, 17 other prisoners were hanged to death.

Avadhnama (December 21) states that 17 people linked to ISIS have been awarded death sentence by a court in Libya. They were accused of murdering citizens. According to government lawyer, these people had abducted 53 persons and shot them dead and they also destroyed several government building. According to government sources, nearly 2,000 people who were taken hostage by ISIS were later



declared as absconding and they were killed later.

Roznama Sahara (January 28) states that the US Secretary of State had announced that the US military had launched an operation against people linked to ISIS in northern Somalia in which 10 people including a commander named Bilal al-Sudani were killed. The US government alleged that Bilal al-Sudani had carried out terrorist activities in Africa and Afghanistan.

A spokesperson of White House said that majority of those who were killed belonged to Sudan. In this operation, the Somali Army cooperated with the US military. Last month, during another operation, more than 100 people belonging to an Islamic terrorist organisation were killed. This terrorist organisation named Al Shabab is entrenched in eastern Somalia and they are running a parallel government from there.

Others

Death of eighth Nizam



eighth Nizam, Nawab Mir Barkat Ali Khan, passed away in Turkiye. He was 90 years old. His mother was Durru Shehvar, the only daughter of the last Islamic Caliph Abdul Hamid II. As per his last wishes, his body was brought to Hyderabad and buried at the family Khabristan with royal

Mumbai Urdu News (January 16) reports that the grandson of Mir Osman Ali Khan, the last Nizam of Hyderabad, and the

honours. Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao expressed condolences on the passing away of the last Nizam.

Taslima Nasreen becomes disabled



Mumbai Urdu News (January 22) states that Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasreen,

who is leading a life of exile, has become disabled. Recently Nasreen posted some photos of her on social media and levelled serious charges against the doctor of a hospital in Delhi. She said that she had gone to the hospital due to knee pain. However, the doctor had done wrong treatment and her hip joint was replaced through surgery. Due to doctor's negligence, she has become disabled for life and she has become bedridden.

Fine imposed on seven masjids in Haridwar

Mumbai Urdu News (January 21) reports that the administration in Haridwar in Uttarakhand imposed a fine of Rs 35,000 on seven masjids on charges of creating noise pollution using loudspeakers, apart from issuing a stringent warning to two masjids. This action was taken by the Sub Divisional Magistrate of Haridwar, Puran Singh Rana. It is to be noted that on the directions of the high court in Nainital and the Uttarakhand government, permission

has been granted to masjids to use loudspeakers on some conditions and restrictions.

The administration claimed that the managers of the masjids used loudspeakers in high volume, violating the laws and restrictions. After an investigation by the pollution board, they were issued notice. Since the reply to the notifications were not satisfactory, a fine of Rs 5,000 each was imposed on masjids.

Permission to wear burqa to college



Avadhnama (January 20) reports that the managers of Hindu college in Moradabad have allowed Muslim students to come to college wearing burqa after protests by Muslims. This apart, these students can attend classes wearing a hijab. As per new rules, a special room has been allocated for students to remove their burqa after entering the college.

Earlier, the managers of the college had imposed a ban on wearing burqa to the college in the name of new

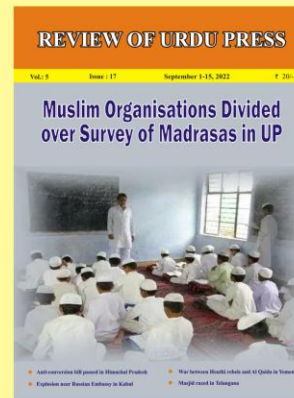
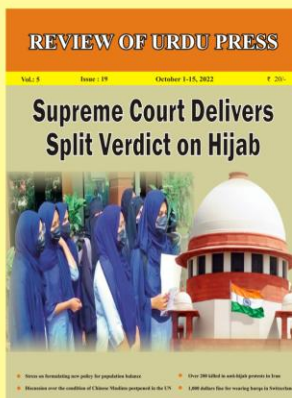
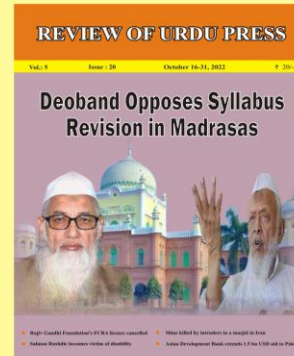
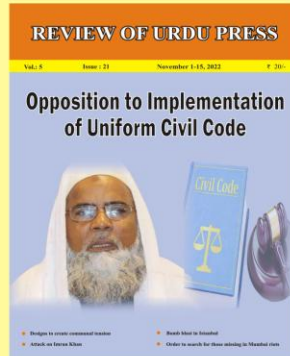
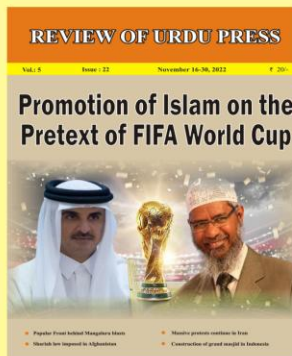
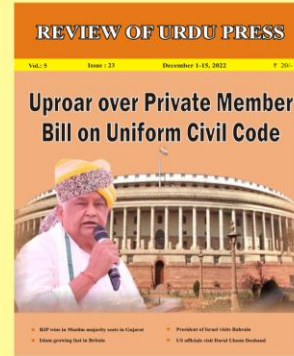
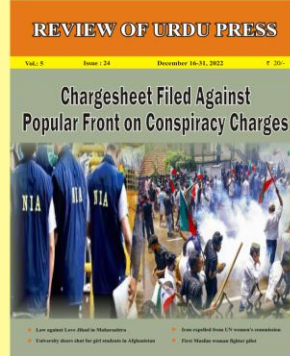
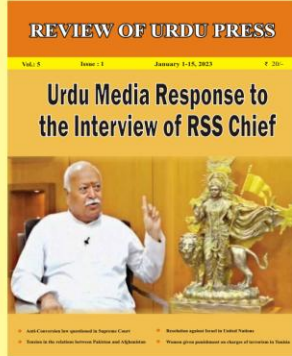
dress code. Following this, the students held a dharna outside the college and created a ruckus. The leaders of Samajwadi Students Union extended support to the ruckus. When the situation turned worse, there were heated arguments between the college principal and student leaders, following which the administration intervened and made the two sides reach an agreement and the students were allowed to enter college wearing a burqa.

Supreme Court refuses to stay caste census



Avadhnama (January 21) reports that the Nitish government has got a huge relief from the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court refused to hear petitions against

holding caste census and directed the petitioners that they approach the high court in this connection. The Supreme Court said that it is not in a Constitutional position to give directions to any state government on how much reservation it should provide. It is to be noted that the Bihar government is currently conducting a caste census, which has been questioned in the court by Hindu Sena and an official of Nalanda, demanding that the notification for caste census shall be cancelled.



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