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## Urdu Media's Anti-BJP Campaign Falls Flat in Bihar Polls



- Terrorists unleash bloodbath in Delhi
- Sheikh Hasina gets death sentence

- US resolution on Gaza peace plan gets Security Council nod
- Controversy over national song Vande Mataram

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## Summary

The campaign unleashed by Urdu newspapers against the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) during the Assembly elections in Bihar has failed miserably. For the past two months, almost every Urdu newspaper in the country has been urging Muslims to get united and vote in favour of the opposition alliance 'Mahagathbandan' to defeat the BJP and its allies. However, the Muslim votes got divided and the NDA benefitted from it. The NDA registered a huge victory on 202 seats. It looks like even a section of Muslims and Yadavs also supported the NDA. One fallout of this campaign by Urdu media is that the number of Muslim MLAs in the Bihar Assembly has come down to 11 from 19. Asaduddin Owaisi's party All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) has succeeded in registering its victory in Seemanchal region this time as well. Meanwhile, the Rashtriya Janata Dal and its allied parties including the Congress have suffered a huge setback.

Ever since the Modi government came to power, there has been a decline in the activities of terrorists. This has exasperated Pakistan. Now the terrorist organisations entrenched in Pakistan have once again tried to spark the flames of terrorism in India. This time the terrorists included highly educated doctors and imams of mosques. It is notable that these terrorists are Indian citizens. According to intelligence sources, these highly educated terrorists belonging to Pakistan-sponsored terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammad and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind had conspired to incite the flames of terrorism across the country. The intelligence sources traced this gang and took into custody two dozen people belonging to it and also seized more than 2,900 kilogram explosives from them. The centre of this gang is the Faridabad-based Islamic university, Al Falah. Following the arrest of these terrorists, the mastermind of the group, Dr Umar Nabi, took his own life, anticipating his own arrest. He carried out the blast in a car filled with explosives outside the Red Fort Metro station in Delhi. Fifteen innocent people were killed and dozens were injured in this blast. Security agencies claim that the links of this group extend to Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI. Umar Nabi and his colleagues visited Pakistan, Turkiye and Bangladesh where they received support and guidance from ISI.

In the northern African Islamic nation of Sudan, after two years of fierce civil war, the US efforts have increased the possibility of a ceasefire. A bloody clash is on between government army (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) for power. More than 40,000 people have been killed and crores of people have to flee their homes. The newspapers allege that foreign powers are involved in instigating conflict between these two groups. In Sudan, the gold mines are in the control of RSF. The RSF was able to get mercenaries and weapons from abroad using this gold, whereas SAF has the support of Egypt and Turkiye.

The International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) constituted by Bangladesh has announced death sentence to the deposed prime minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina. The ICT alleged that it was on the orders of Hasina that the army killed hundreds of protesters during the anti-government protests. The Bangladesh government demanded the Indian government to hand over Sheikh Hasina to it so that she could be executed.

## Urdu media's anti-BJP campaign in Bihar elections falls flat



For the past two months, the Urdu media have been continuously asking Muslim voters to get united for the Bihar Assembly elections and vote for the Opposition Mahagathbandan and put in every effort to ensure its victory. However, the resounding success of the NDA in this elections has caused their campaign to collapse. The Urdu media had run a similar campaign during the Maharashtra Assembly elections as well. In the Bihar Assembly elections, the grand alliance suffered a crushing defeat. This apart, the number of Muslim legislators in the Bihar Assembly has now come down to 11 from 19.

In this elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party registered victory in 89 seats. Whereas the Janata Dal (United) emerged victorious in 85 seats. The Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) won 19 seats. Similarly, Jitan Ram Manjhi's party, Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular), registered victory on five seats. Meanwhile, another ally of NDA, Upendra Kushwaha's party Rashtriya Lok Morcha, also got four seats. In the Opposition Mahagathbandan, RJD got only 25 seats. Similarly, Congress managed to win only six, CPI (M-L) two

and CPI (M) one seat each. Meanwhile, AIMIM registered victory on five seats in Seemanchal region.

**Inquilab** (November 15) states that in the Bihar Assembly elections, despite the massive victory of NDA, the AIMIM displayed a spectacular performance in Seemanchal region. Its five candidates won in the elections. Earlier in the 2020 Assembly elections also AIMIM had won five seats from this region. From Bahadurganj Assembly seat, AIMIM's Tauseef Alam defeated Congress candidate Mohammad Musawar Alam by a margin of 28,726 votes. Whereas LJP (R) candidate Mohammad Kalimuddin finished at third position. In Jokihat seat, AIMIM candidate Mohammad Murshid Alam defeated JD (U) candidate Manzar Alam by 28,803 votes. In this seat, Jan Suraj Party's Sarfaraz Alam finished at third spot. In Kochadhaman seat, AIMIM candidate Mohammad Sarwar Alam registered victory. He defeated RJD candidate Mujahid Alam by 23,021 votes. Mujahid Alam had recently left JD (U) and joined RJD. In Amour seat, AIMIM candidate Akhtarul Iman defeated JD (U)'s Saba



Zafar by a margin of 38,928 votes. In this seat, Congress's Abdul Jaleel Mastan finished at third spot. In Baisi seat, AIMIM candidate Ghulam Sarwar defeated BJP's Vinod Kumar by a margin of 27,251 votes. Whereas RJD's Abdus Subhan finished at third spot.

It is worth mentioning that in the 2020 Assembly elections, 19 Muslim legislators got elected. Whereas 24 Muslim candidates had won the elections in 2015, 19 in 2010 and 16 in 2005 elections. In this year's Assembly election, the AIMIM had fielded 25 candidates in Muslim-majority areas, out of which 23 were Muslims. The BJP did not field any Muslim candidate in the elections. When a journalist asked Union Home Minister Amit Shah why the BJP did not give tickets to any Muslim candidate, he said we give tickets to only those candidates who have the possibility of winning the elections. Amit Shah made it clear that the other constituent parties of NDA had fielded five Muslim candidates.

It is worth mentioning that Asaduddin Owaisi had demanded six seats to join the Mahagathbandan, but his demand was rejected. When RJD leader and former deputy chief minister of Bihar Tejashwi Yadav was asked why they did not include Asaduddin Owaisi in their alliance, he said there was no place for extremists in our alliance. In this year's Assembly election, RJD fielded 18 Muslim candidates. Whereas Congress fielded 10 Muslim candidates, JD (U) four and Chirag Paswan's party LJP (R) one Muslim candidate.

The interesting thing is that in Raghunathpur Assembly constituency in Siwan, notorious strongman Shahabuddin's son Osama Shahab registered victory. He defeated JD (U) candidate Vikas Kumar Singh by a margin of 9,248 votes. From Dhaka seat, RJD candidate Faisal Rahman won. He defeated BJP candidate Pawan Kumar Jaiswal by 178 votes. This



Assembly constituency in East Champaran district is considered as Muslim-majority. In Bisfi seat, RJD candidate Asif Ahmad defeated BJP's Haribhushan Thakur by 8,107 votes. In Chainpur seat, JD (U)'s Mohammad Jama Khan won. He defeated RJD's Brij Kishore Bind by 8,362 votes. In this seat, Bahujan Samaj Party's Dhiraj Kumar Singh finished at third position. In Kishanganj seat, Congress candidate Mohammad Qamrul Hoda defeated BJP candidate Sweety Singh by a margin of 12,794 votes. In Araria, Congress candidate Abidur Rahman defeated JD(U) candidate Shagufta Azim by a margin of 12,741 votes. Whereas AIMIM candidate Mohammad Manzoor Alam finished at third position.

**Urdu Times** (November 16) in its editorial said the results of Bihar Assembly elections was unexpected. The surprising thing is that even those candidates whom the people did not even allow to enter their villages have won the elections. The Mahagathbandan candidates thought they were very popular with the public, but they lost. Now these candidates are worried where their votes had gone? It is said the Bihar voters staying in different cities in the country were sent in special trains to vote in this elections. Nobody knows where their votes had gone. The ruling party employ new tactics to win the elections. The opposition parties were confident that they were winning the elections. No one has an answer as to how they lost so badly.



The snake has already gone. There's no point in beating the stick now.

**Urdu Times** (November 16) has published a special article by Javed Jamaluddin. The article gives details about the methods adopted by BJP to win the Maharashtra Assembly elections. They used the same methods and won the Bihar Assembly elections as well. The manner in which the ruling NDA sent Rs 10,000 each to the bank accounts of women cannot be overlooked. The result was that NDA got more than two-thirds seats. Now the question that arises is that despite a 20-year-long anti-incumbency, how the ruling alliance got such a huge victory? The funny thing is that the other parties which are part of NDA also got success beyond their expectations. The Congress and the Left parties have been limited to three to four seats. President of Bihar Congress Rajesh Ram and leader of Congress party in Bihar Assembly Shakeel Ahmed Khan suffered huge defeats. Similarly, CPI (M-L) leader Mahboob Alam also had to face defeat. The interesting thing is that the NDA got huge success in those places where lakhs of names were removed from voters' list under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR).

**Hindustan Express** (November 15) in its editorial described the results of Bihar Assembly elections as unexpected. The newspaper mentioned that the NDA got an unexpected victory due to the division in Muslim and Yadav votes. The Rs 10,000 each transferred to the bank accounts of women have played a major role in this victory.

**Munsif** (November 17) in its editorial said that the NDA got a huge

victory due to incidents of massive fraud during the polling and purchase of votes. Lakhs of voters have complained that even before reaching polling booths, their votes had been cast. There were allegations in various parts of the country that the ruling party bribed voters to win elections, whether in the form of cash or gifts. However, by transferring money into the bank accounts of women voters, voting in Bihar has

become a business. This country has now become a marketplace for votes, where political parties openly buy votes.

**Inquilab** (November 15) in its editorial said this is a result of Narendra Modi's able leadership and Nitish Kumar's efficiency. Commenting on the defeat of Mahagathbandan, the newspaper said that the mutual conflicts between the various constituents in this alliance has drowned it. The interest shown by Bihar's voters in the elections has completely changed the political landscape of the state.

**Siasat** (November 16) in its editorial said the NDA has got an unexpected victory. Whereas the performance of Mahagathbandan was shameful. It is necessary that all political parties should analyse the results of Bihar Assembly elections with full honesty and fairness. The weird thing is that RJD has got more than 1.15 crore votes. While the BJP and JD (U) got much less votes compared to RJD. Despite this, the RJD got just 25 seats and NDA got 202 seats. How it happened? There is need to seriously think about it. There is merit in the allegations of opposition that the Election Commission has worked in favour of BJP and it closed its eyes towards election fraud.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (November 16) in its editorial said even the leaders of NDA did not expect that they would manage victory in more than 200 seats. Election analysts believed that even if RJD did not come to power, it would emerge as the single largest party. All the claims of Jan Suraj Party proved hollow and it did not get even a single seat. This is the



situation with other parties as well, who were fielded by the BJP as part of the strategy to divide the votes of the Opposition. The newspaper said that the credit for this great victory goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

**Etemaad** (November 15) described the success of AIMIM as 'Grace of Allah'. The newspaper said the Mahagathbandan should think why it was unable to stop the wave of BJP?

**Etemaad** (November 16) has published an article by Mohammad Nasir Gyas. This article claims that NDA achieved success through political manipulation and the abuse of power and money. It cannot be refuted that the NDA got huge success in those places where the Election Commission had deleted the names of lakhs of voters from the voters' list. This makes it clear that the Election Commission played this card under pressure from the ruling party. The writer has expressed concern that the representation of Muslims in Bihar Assembly is rapidly declining. All the efforts to keep Muslim voters united have failed.

**Hamara Samaj** (November 16) in its editorial alleged that the Mahagathbandan has taken part in an election which has not been taking place in a fair atmosphere right from the beginning. The Congress should seriously think despite Rahul Gandhi's tireless effort why they suffered such a crushing defeat in this

election? RJD has totally failed to attract the voters. Prashant Kishore, Asaduddin Owaisi and Mayawati also inflicted huge damages to Mahagathbandan. The RJD presented Nitish Kumar as an anti-Muslim leader. This was a weak point in the grand alliance's election campaign because during his 20-year-tenure Nitish Kumar did not do any such thing on the basis of which he could be described as anti-Muslim. The Mahagathbandan had highlighted the support given by Nitish Kumar to Waqf bill. Whereas it was a result of the internal fissures of Muslim organisation Imarat-e-Shariah. The efforts made to unite Muslims against the NDA on the basis of this issue have totally failed.

**Hindustan** (November 15) in its editorial said the question how despite an anti-incumbency wave the NDA managed victory in 202 seats is an important one. Did all these happen due to vote chori? There is no doubt that seeing the success of 'Ladki Bahin Yojana' of the Mahayuti government in Maharashtra, Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed Rs 10,000 each to women in Bihar and changed the direction of the wind. The surprising thing is that the BJP has emerged as the biggest party and Nitish Kumar's JD (U) became the second biggest party.

**Hindustan Express** (November 15) said that Nitish Kumar has proved as the Chanakya of Bihar. Due to his winning strategy, NDA got success beyond its expectations. Due to the campaign of good



governance which Nitish Kumar started in 2005, the people of Bihar have given him a resounding victory with a huge majority.

**Urdu Times** (November 15) has published an article by Farooq Ansari. It is said in this article that it looks like it is not only difficult to defeat the BJP in this centenary but also impossible to do so. This is the clear message from Bihar elections. Now there is no doubt that the BJP will win in West Bengal, Assam, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh as well. Now nothing will go wrong for the BJP as it is working in a well-planned manner to win the elections. The entire bureaucracy is with it. The Election Commission dances to its tunes. Now nobody has the courage to lodge a complaint with the Election Commission against election fraud. Rahul Gandhi or the entire INDIA alliance will



fight with whom? These people have been doing road shows on streets. Allegations were made at press conferences, but they are not going to succeed in the elections because electoral ethics are being openly flouted. RSS has got full opportunity to turn the country into a Hindu Rashtra. The results of Bihar Assembly elections have disappointed every justice-seeking individual.

## Terrorists unleash bloodbath in Delhi



Pakistan-sponsored terrorists carried out a suicide blast in a car near Gate No. 1 of Red Fort Metro Station in Delhi. Fifteen innocent people lost their lives in the blast. Nearly two dozen people were also injured who are fighting a battle between life and death in the hospital. The Central government handed over the probe into the incident to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for a detailed inquiry into

the activities of the terrorists and the conspiracy behind it. The Delhi Police, Jammu-Kashmir Police and Haryana Police are cooperating with the NIA in the investigation. Over 200 people have been taken into custody from across the country for interrogation. Officially, the arrest of two dozen suspects has been confirmed. They include a dozen doctors and imams of nearly seven masjids. Sensational





revelations are emerging every day during the interrogations by investigating agencies.

**Inqilab** (November 11) states that nearly 15 people were killed and more than three dozen people were injured in a blast that took place near Gate No.1 of Red Fort Metro Station. This blast took place in a car. The blast was so severe that its sound was heard several kilometres away. Later, during the police investigation, the body parts of a terrorist named Dr Mohammad Umar Nabi were found. It is said that Nabi had blown himself up in the car filled with explosives. According to police, Umar Nabi was a member of 'White Collar' terrorist module. The DNA samples collected from his family members were compared with those from the body parts of Dr Umar. It was established from this that the man who was driving the car was Dr Umar Nabi. Following this, the police took other members of his family including Umar's father in to custody. Till now, more than a dozen doctors associated with the group have been taken into custody in the raids held across the country. This includes a woman doctor, Shaheen Sayeed, as well. She belongs to Lucknow. Majority of the doctors of this gang are working with a private university named Al Falah located in Faridabad.

Before the blast that took place in Red Fort, the police had raided a few

places in Faridabad and seized over 2,900 kilograms of explosive material. In this connection, raids were conducted in Lucknow, Saharanpur, Faridabad, Delhi and Jammu-Kashmir and seven doctors were taken into custody. As per media reports, this terrorist gang is linked to Pakistan-inspired Islamic terrorist organisation Jaish-e-Mohammad and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind. As per the report of the NIA, the doctors belonging to this gang visited Turkiye, Bangladesh and Pakistan last year. There they held secret talks with several officials of Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI.

The NIA conducted raids in Kashmir and arrested a 20-year-old student, Jasir Bilal Wani. Wani was a colleague of Dr Umar Nabi. He modified the drone to make it a weapon and also tried to make rockets. This apart, another colleague of Dr Umar, Amir Rashid Ali, was also arrested from Kashmir. Amir had provided a car to Umar to carry out the explosion. The investigating agencies have so far taken into custody the imams of at least seven masjids. They are linked to this gang.

**Inqilab** (November 16) states that an explosion occurred at the Nowgam police station in Srinagar involving explosives seized from Faridabad. Nine persons were killed and 32 others were injured in this blast. Majority of those killed were police personnel. Lt Governor



of Jammu-Kashmir Manoj Sinha, president of National Conference Farooq Abdullah and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed condolences to the families of those killed in the explosion.

As per a news published in **Inquilab** (November 19), the Enforcement Directorate (ED) arrested the founder of Al Falah University Jawad Ahmad Siddiqui in a money laundering case. The investigating agencies are probing whether Jawad Siddiqui had any hand in the recruitment of terrorist doctors in Al Falah University or not? It is also being probed whether Siddiqui had provided financial help to the terrorists for the blasts that took place in Delhi? Siddiqui originally belongs to Mhow in Madhya Pradesh. He belongs to an ordinary family, but today he has assets worth billions of rupees. The investigating agencies are also probing from what sources has he acquired such a vast fortune?

On the other hand, the Uttar Pradesh ATS has taken into custody several people from Hapur, Saharanpur, Delhi, Haryana and Kashmir in connection with the Delhi blasts. The ATS has refused to mention about the number of people being taken into custody and said that since the probe is currently ongoing, more information could not be provided at this juncture.

**Siasat** (November 14) reports that the recognition of Al Falah University has been cancelled. This newspaper has claimed in its edition on November 13 that the Maharashtra ATS has taken several

people into custody from Mumbra and Kurla. Some of these people are associated with mosques.

**Etemaad** (November 10) states that the Gujarat ATS has claimed to have busted a major terror network. The ATS arrested three persons including a doctor. The leader of this gang was Dr Ahmed Mohiuddin Syed. A few weapons were seized from him. It is said his links are with the Khorasan chapter of ISIS. Dr Mohiuddin did his MBBS from China. According to the ATS,

these three terrorists were preparing a poisonous substance called 'Ricin.' Gujarat ATS said this substance was more dangerous than cyanide. It is being investigated how the network was planning to use this substance.

**Urdu Times** (November 12) has expressed concern over the blast that took place near the Red Fort Metro Station in Delhi. However, the newspaper claimed that the blast took place as the CNG cylinder kept in the car near the Red Fort Metro Station exploded. The newspaper demanded that a detailed investigation shall be conducted into the terrorists and a case shall be registered against them in special court.

**Hindustan** (November 12) in its editorial has expressed concern over the blasts in Delhi. The newspaper expressed doubt that the blast could be due to the explosion of the CNG cylinder in the car. The newspaper alleged that the investigating agencies are working in a partisan manner against Muslims in this issue as well.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (November 13) in its editorial has expressed surprise that this terrorist incident took place just one day before the last phase of the Bihar Assembly elections was about to conclude. Hence the investigating agencies should also probe whether the blast is linked to any political party or not? The newspaper stressed that the investigation into the blast should be held with full honesty and in a

fair manner. The investigating agencies should neither work in a pre-determined formula, nor deliberately target people belonging to a particular community.

**Aurangabad Times** (November 14) has claimed that the terrorists had made a plan to carry out serial bomb blasts in several cities in the country on the occasion of the anniversary of the Babri demolition on December 6. For this, they had made an arrangement for 32 cars. The investigating agencies have so far seized four cars. Criticising the government, the newspaper said that when a professor has been taken into custody from Al Falah University in Faridabad, why no action had been taken against his colleagues? The newspaper also criticised that after the arrests of Dr Muzammil Ghani and Dr Shaheen Sayeed, suicide terrorist Dr Umar Nabi had gone absconding from the university. He had gone hiding in Nuh in Haryana for nearly a week, but the investigating agencies did not make any effort to arrest him. Had he been arrested, then definitely the blast that took place near the Red Fort could have been prevented.

**Siasat** (November 12) in its editorial said that when the investigating agencies seized 2,900 kilograms of explosives from Faridabad, why didn't they immediately arrest all the people belonging to this gang? The newspaper said the investigating agencies should conduct the probe in a fair manner. The experience so far is that the investigating agencies have been targeting people belonging to a particular community and later they are proven innocent by the courts. The investigating agencies should not take any prejudicial action against people belonging to any particular religion. Until the investigating agencies work in a non-partisan manner it would not be possible to eliminate terrorism.

**Etemaad** (November 12) in its editorial said that after coming to power, the Modi government has equipped security agencies with modern technology and resources. This apart, the intelligence



network has also been strengthened. Due to this action of the government, there is a huge decline in terrorist activities. However, the indication that one gets from the Delhi blasts is that the elements which spread the flames of terrorism at the behest of foreigners have become active again. It is clear from the arrested people that terrorism is spreading among people who received higher education as well. The terrorists have become more organised than in the past and they are adopting newer techniques. This is a major challenge for the country and this should be taken seriously.

**Etemaad** (November 15) expressed concern that the security agencies are deliberately targeting the imams of the masjids. This has created an atmosphere of fear among ordinary Muslims.

**Hamara Samaj** (November 12) in its editorial said the investigating agencies have claimed that these terrorists are linked to madrasas, who are taking directions from Pakistani intelligence agency ISI through hotline. This is not the first time that the religious card is being played under the pretext of terrorism. It cannot be denied that the possibility of such an atmosphere is being created in the country for vested political interests.

**Hindustan Express** (November 12) in its editorial said the government has described the car blast that took place in Delhi as a terrorist incident after three days. The blast that has taken place at the most sensitive area in Delhi has proved that even the country's capital is not safe under Modi government's regime. Has our country's security system totally collapsed? If this is



really a terrorist attack, then, at the end of the day, we have a right to ask what our security agencies were doing? Can terrorists carry out their heinous plans whenever and wherever they want? Finally, who is responsible for this? The newspaper criticised that whenever a terrorist incident takes place, the media starts associating it with Muslims, and this fuels the anti-Muslim sentiment in the country.

**Inquilab** (November 12) in its editorial said that it is clear from the blast

that took place in Delhi that the enemy is not at the border, instead it has established foothold within the country. The strange thing is that such a huge quantity of explosive material reached Faridabad and our security agencies were not even aware of it. This aspect also cannot be ignored that such incidents often happen whenever there is an election atmosphere in the country. Is this just a coincidence or part of a conspiracy? The government needs to seriously think about it.

## Controversy over national song Vande Mataram



**Qaumi Bharat** (November 8) reports that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing a function organised on the occasion of the completion of 150 years of national song Vande Mataram, said without naming the Congress that due to a divisive mindset, some parts of the freedom movement's great mantra 'Vande Mataram' were removed. Due to this, the seeds of partition were sown in the country. This divisive thinking still poses a challenge to the country and we need to be cautious about it. On this occasion, the Prime Minister released a commemorative coin and a postal stamp. A web portal on Vande Mataram was also launched at the event. The Union government has announced various events for the next one year on the

occasion of the completion of 150 years of Vande Mataram.

As per another news, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta also took part in various programmes related to Vande Mataram. In Mumbai also, special programmes were organised on behalf of BJP. In Lucknow, at an event organised on Vande Mataram, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced that singing of Vande Mataram has been made mandatory in all schools in the state.

**Urdu Times** (November 10) states that the Congress, while criticising the statement of Prime Minister Modi, said he has insulted Rabindranath Tagore. Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is

distorting history and raising this issue to fulfil his political interests.

**Inquilab** (November 10) reports that Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said the decision to remove some controversial portions of Vande Mataram was taken at a meeting of Congress Working Committee in Kolkata in 1937. In this meeting, several senior leaders including Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Subhash Chandra Bose, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Sarojini Naidu, J B Kripalani, Bhulabhai Desai, Jamnalal Bajaj and Acharya Narendra Dev took part. Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore also supported this decision. Gurudev had suggested that two stanzas of Vande Mataram shall be recognised as national song.

**Awadhnama** (November 9) states that the chief of Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Mahmood Madani, has opposed the decision to make singing of Vande Mataram mandatory in schools. He said this was against Islam, because in Islam there is no permission to pay obeisance to anybody other than Allah. He said this decision of the government is against the basic tenets of the Constitution, where every citizen has been given the right to practice the religion of his choice. As per the provisions of the Constitution, no citizen in the country could be forced to sing a song against his religious belief. In this connection, the Supreme Court had also given clear directions. He said that the Congress, by a majority, had removed those parts of the national song which included the worship of Bharat Mata.

**Etemaad** (November 6) states that the united front of Islamic organisations in Jammu-Kashmir, Muttahida Majlis-e-Ulema, has opposed an order issued by the cultural department of the state, where all the schools have been directed to organise musical and cultural programmes in order to celebrate the 150th anniversary of national song Vande Mataram. Chairman of Muttahida Majlis-e-Ulema, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, said this decision is against the spirit of religious freedom and this will

damage the atmosphere of religious harmony in the Valley. He said that singing Vande Mataram is contrary to Islamic faith, as it worships the Goddess. In Islam, there is no permission to worship anyone other than Allah. Muttahida Majlis-e-Ulema urged Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and Jammu-Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to immediately withdraw this order. Mirwaiz Umar Farooq alleged that the ideology of RSS is forcibly imposed on the people of the country. We will strongly oppose this, he said.

Jammu-Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said this decision was taken by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha. He did not consult the elected government of the state in this connection and hence we will oppose this. The Lt Governor took this decision at the behest of external powers, which is not welcome.

**Siasat** (November 11) states that the chief of Jamiat Ulema in Maharashtra Maulana Haleem Ullah Qasmi has urged Muslims to withdraw their students from such schools where Vande Mataram has been made mandatory.

**Inquilab** (November 11) states that member of All India Muslim Personal Law Board and renowned Islamic scholar Maulana Khalid Rashid Firangi Mahali has opposed the mandatory singing of Vande Mataram in schools in Uttar Pradesh. He urged the Muslims in the state to boycott such schools where singing of national song is mandatory.

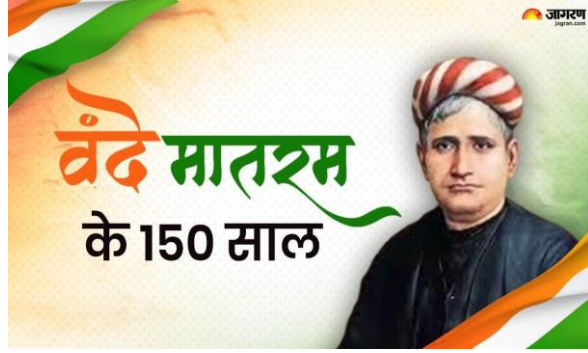
**Inquilab** (November 11) has published an article by Dr Taslim Ahmad Rahmani. It has been said in this article that the BJP wants to forcibly impose on Muslims those parts of the national song in which Goddess Durga is worshipped. He said that in 1896, when Vande Mataram was sung at the Kolkata session of the Congress, there was lot of protest against it. After this, it was decided to remove those parts of Vande Mataram in which Goddess Durga was worshipped. He said the present government is forcibly imposing the worshipping of Hindu Devi-Devatas on the people of the country. This we will never

accept. He said the RSS deliberately wants to whip up this controversy so that the unity of the country is spoiled and a new controversy is created.

**Hindustan** (November 9) in its editorial, while opposing the decision to make singing of Vande Mataram mandatory in schools, said this is against Islamic beliefs. This song is part of Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's novel 'Anand Math.' It worships Hindu goddesses like Durga, Saraswati and Lakshmi. This is against the fundamental principle of Muslims to worship 'One Allah'. The newspaper has written that in 1937, after seeing the opposition of Muslims, the Congress removed some portions of the national song. Even after Independence, the Congress governments never tried to impose Vande Mataram on Muslims. Now the Sangh Parivar has started imposing Hindutva on Muslims.

The newspaper said that when the Mahayuti government in Maharashtra made it mandatory to sing Vande Mataram for a week in all schools in the state, three Muslim legislators namely Abu Asim Asmi, Aslam Sheikh and Amin Patel opposed it. Following this, the BJP's Mumbai unit sang Vande Mataram outside the houses and offices of the three Muslim legislators who opposed Vande Mataram. These are being deliberately done to hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims. The interesting thing is that those people who had never sang Vande Mataram in their Shakhnas are now forcibly imposing them on Muslims to divide the unity of the country.

**Roznama Sahara** (November 17) alleged that Prime Minister Modi has deliberately raked up this controversy again. Its aim is to create a political atmosphere against Congress and Muslims. Now, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has also jumped into this controversy. The newspaper said that during the British period, a top official of West Bengal, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, wrote a novel named 'Anand Math' in 1882. Vande Mataram was a part of it. The



purpose of this novel was to praise the British rule and incite hatred against the Muslim rulers. In this novel, for the first time, Muslims are called invaders and foreigners. Vande Mataram calls for the worship of Goddess Durga and inspires us to follow the path of Sanatan. Muslims have been opposing this right from the beginning.

The Uttar Pradesh chief minister has opened a new front against Muslims on this pretext. When a section of Muslims in Uttar Pradesh opposed its compulsory singing in schools, Chief Minister Yogi issued a fresh statement in Barabanki next day itself. He said that Vande Mataram is being opposed by those people who are against Bharat Mata. He sarcastically said those who are at the forefront in the race to grab government schemes are saying they will not sing Vande Mataram. The chief minister said no sect or religion can be bigger than the nation. The newspaper said it is strange that the chief minister has linked it to government schemes. Those people who get benefits from these schemes also pay taxes to the government like other members of the society. The government's money is not the ancestral property of any chief minister or ruling party. Every citizen has the right to take the benefits of the welfare schemes being run from the taxes paid by the people.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (November 14) said that raising controversial issues and taking advantage of them is a tried and tested political tactic of the BJP. When this party, the contractor of Hindutva, sees its political ground slipping, it tries to attract the majority community by raising some



emotional issue or the other. The country is currently passing through a constitutional, financial and social crisis. Instead of getting out of this serious situation, the BJP government is busy raking up new political controversies. In this connection, Prime Minister Modi raked up the issue of a controversial song and started a new debate in the country. For the first time, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Vande Mataram is celebrated at the political level. The ruling party is singing praises of Vande Mataram. Meanwhile, historians believe that this song hurts the communal harmony of the country.

The newspaper claimed that an official of British government, Bankim

Chandra Chatterjee, in his novel Anand Math presented Bharat as an imaginary idol and named it as Bharat Mata. Later it was presented as Goddess Durga and Kali. These things are against the religious beliefs of non-Hindu citizens of the country and hence Muslims have opposed it. This is the reason why the Congress had decided in 1937 that only the first two stanzas of Vande Mataram shall be sung as National Song. The government wants Muslims to take their children out from schools in the name of Vande Mataram so that they fall behind the members of other communities in the field of education. Hence Muslims need to remain alert about the intentions of the government.

## Instructions to keep a close watch on the activities of Tablighi Jamaat

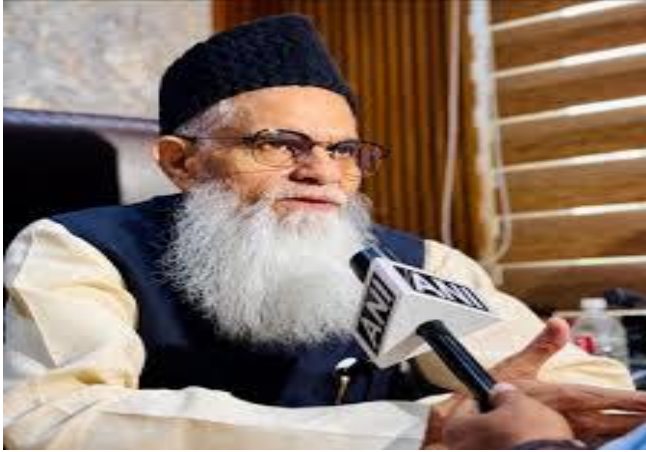
**Inquilab** (November 3) states that the Uttar Pradesh government has directed all regional police officers to keep a close watch on the activities of those belonging to Tablighi Jamaat. Inspector General of Police (Law and Order) L R Kumar has issued a circular on October 29, 2025. As per this circular, all zonal Additional Directors General of Police, Police Commissioners and the SP-SSPs in the districts have been directed that they keep an eye on the activities of Tablighi Jamaat. The order states that information related to people associated with the Tablighi Jamaat should be sent daily at 8 am to the Zonal ADG concerned (through the Range IG. It will also need to be explained from where the members of the Jamaat group came from? If people belonging to the district are in the Jamaat, then where did they go?



It is worth mentioning that during the Corona pandemic in March 2020, an ijtema was organised at the headquarters of Tablighi Jamaat at Nizamuddin locality in Delhi. More than 2,000 foreign and Indian Muslims took part in this ijtema. When

they were tested for coronavirus, more than 400 people were found to be infected. The health ministry had claimed that the participation of Jamaat members in this gathering had led to an increase in coronavirus cases across the country. In this connection, several cases were also registered. Later, the courts rejected these cases. Informed sources say that after the visit of Afghanistan foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi to India, the intelligence system of the country is keeping a close watch on the activities of Tablighi Jamaat.

**Aurangabad Times** (November 16) states that after the blast that took place outside Red Fort Metro Station, the police raided a few masjids in Delhi and Faridabad and took several people



belonging to Tablighi Jamaat into custody for questioning. They included the imams of some masjids as well.

As per a news published in this newspaper in the November 9 edition, the national president of Ulema Council Amir Rashdi Madani criticised the decision of the Uttar Pradesh government. He alleged that the Uttar Pradesh government is raking up such issues to increase the speed of the polarisation of votes of the majority community. However, Tablighi Jamaat has nothing to do with politics and its activities are limited to the preaching and propagation of Islam.

**Qaumi Bharat** (October 20) states that a huge ijtema of Tablighi Jamaat was held at Nuh in Haryana. Nearly nine lakh people took part in it.

**Inqilab** (November 18) states that an international Tablighi ijtema was organised in Bhopal. This ijtema started with the mass prayers of Maulana Muhammad Saad Khandhlawi, the head of Tablighi Jamaat. He appealed to Muslims to remain steadfast in their faith and follow the Sunnah (teachings and practices) of the Prophet. This apart, a mass prayer was also offered for the protection of madrasas and for those who have been victims of government persecution. It is claimed that 10-15 lakh people took part in this ijtema. The Madhya Pradesh government had made security arrangements and traffic management for this ijtema. This apart, on behalf of the government, special arrangements for electricity, water and

cleanliness have been made for the benefits of those arriving for the ijtema.

**Background:** The Tablighi Jamaat was established in 1926 by a Muslim scholar from Kandhla town in Muzaffarnagar, Maulana Mohammad Ilyas Kandhlawi. Maulana Ilyas received his education from Muslim training institute Darul Uloom Deoband. He was a propagator of Wahabi ideology of Islam. The first Tablighi ijtema was held in India in Bhopal's Shakoor Khan Masjid.

In Arabic, the meaning of ijtema is to gather. It is said that the Tablighi Jamaat was established as an answer to the Shuddhi movement of Arya Samaj. Maulana Ilyas started the activities of Tablighi Jamaat from Mewat. The motto of this Jamaat is, 'Muslim, be like a Muslim.'

This Jamaat has had three Amirs in the first seven decades. They all belonged to one family. In 1944, after the death of Maulana Ilyas, his son Mohammad Yusuf Kandhlawi took over as the Amir of Tablighi Jamaat. In 1965, after the death of Yusuf, Inamul Hasan became the third Amir of the Jamaat. Inamul Hasan passed away at the age of 77 years in 1995. After his death, a dispute arose in the Jamaat over the question of Amir of Tablighi Jamaat. This dispute started between Maulana Ilyas's great grandson Maulana Saad and the grandson of the second Amir of Jamaat, Maulana Jubair ul Hasan. In 2014, Maulana Jubair ul Hasan passed away. Following this, a major section of the Jamaat refused to accept Maulana Saad as the Amir of the Jamaat. Later, the opponents of Saad constituted Majlis-e-Shura and decided that in future the Tablighi Jamaat shall be run on the directions of Majlis-e-Shura.

In November 2015, a meeting of the opponents of Maulana Saad took place at Raiwind located near Lahore in Pakistan. In this meeting, it had been confirmed that in future the work of Tablighi Jamaat will be undertaken on the directions of the

newly constituted Majlis-e-Shura. Thirteen people have been appointed to it. Maulana Saad had refused to accept this decision of the ijtema at Raiwind and he issued a video stating that, "I am the Amir. The Amir of all. If you don't agree, go to hell." Currently, the situation is such that Tablighi Jamaat has got divided into four parts. The headquarters of one group is at Raiwind located at Lahore in Pakistan. Whereas the headquarters of the second group is at Tongi in Dhaka. Meanwhile, the third group is being run by the Tablighi Markaz in Navi Mumbai. These three groups agree that the Tablighi Jamaat shall be run on the directions of the Majlis-e-Shura constituted at the international level and in future the Jamaat will have no Amir.

Whereas the fourth group is that of Maulana Saad. The headquarters of this group is at the Banglawali Masjid located

at Hazrat Nizamuddin colony in Delhi. Saad claims that he is the Amir of Jamaat and the Majlis-e-Shura had been constituted in an illegal manner. A few months ago, the Bangladesh Tablighi Jamaat and the Saad group had organised separate ijtemas at Tongi in Bangladesh. During this time, even bloody clashes took place between the two groups. Several people were killed in these clashes. After this incident, the Bangladesh government expelled Maulana Saad from Bangladesh.

Tablighi Jamaat claims that it is the world's biggest Islamic organisation. Its branches are spread over 140 nations in the world. It is said that the number of its followers are between 8 to 10 crore. The surprising thing is that a dozen Islamic nations including Saudi Arabia had imposed a ban on the activities of Tablighi Jamaat.

## Former cricketer Azharuddin inducted into Telangana cabinet



**Urdu Times** (November 5) states that former cricketer and Congress leader Mohammad Azharuddin has taken oath as a minister in Telangana cabinet. He has been handed over the minorities welfare department. On October 31, Governor Jishnu Dev Varma administered the oath of office and secrecy to Azharuddin at Raj Bhawan. Azharuddin took the oath in the name of Allah and raised the slogans of Jai Telangana and Jai Hind at the end. Sixty two-year-old Azharuddin is the first

Muslim minister in Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's cabinet. In August, the state cabinet had decided to appoint Azharuddin as a member of the Legislative Council through the quota of Governor. In the 2023 Assembly elections, he had even contested from the Jubilee Hills constituency, but was defeated. After including Azharuddin in the cabinet, the strength of the cabinet has increased to 16, which is just two below the Constitutional limit of 18 ministers.

**Etemaad** (November 2), while commenting about the inclusion of Mohammad Azharuddin in the cabinet, said that a Muslim minister has been included in the Revanth Reddy cabinet for the first time. The reason for this is that a by-election is scheduled in the Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency. In this constituency, the number of Muslim voters





is more than 30 percent. The BJP has objected to the inclusion of Azharuddin in the cabinet. The party described it as a violation of election code of conduct. On the other hand, the Congress has hailed this decision as social justice. President of Telangana Congress Mahesh Kumar Goud said the promise made by the party to include a Muslim minister in the cabinet has been fulfilled. The interesting thing is that Azharuddin is neither a member of the Assembly nor an elected member of the Legislative Council. He has been appointed through the quota of the Governor.

The newspaper said that Azharuddin has been included in the cabinet in order to win the Jubilee Hills by-election. He contested the elections in 2023 as a Congress candidate from this constituency, but was defeated by BRS candidate M Gopinath. In the Telangana Assembly elections held in 2023, out of the total 119 seats, Congress won 64 and the BRS won 39 seats. The BJP got eight seats and the AIMIM got seven seats. Whereas the candidate of CPI won in one seat.

Earlier, Azharuddin had won the Lok Sabha elections from Moradabad constituency in Uttar Pradesh in 2009. Azharuddin was made the captain of Indian Cricket Team in 1989 after K Srikanth. However, in 2000, he was accused of match-fixing. Following an investigation, the Indian Cricket Control Board had banned him from playing cricket for life-term. However, in November 2012, the Andhra Pradesh high court had lifted the ban imposed on Azharuddin. Mohammad Azharuddin was born in Hyderabad on February 8, 1963. He obtained a B Com degree from Nizam College under Osmania University. In 1987, he married Naureen. In 1996, he had given talaq to Naureen and

married actress Sangeeta Bijlani. In 2010, he had given talaq to Sangeeta Bijlani as well.

**Munsif** (November 10) states that the inclusion of Azharuddin in the cabinet shows that the Congress is now trying to pacify the disappointed Muslim voters. Revanth Reddy knows it very well that in order to remain in power, the support of majority community is not enough, rather, he will have to build support among Muslims as well. For the past few decades, the Congress party is losing popularity among Muslim voters in Telangana and the AIMIM is benefitting from it. The Congress has played this game in order to improve its popularity in Shehari constituency in Telangana. Giving a Muslim a place in the cabinet is a calculated move by the party to ensure that Muslims feel they have not been neglected. However, though Azharuddin was not much active in the politics of Telangana, he was quite popular among the people as a cricketer.

**Hindustan** (November 3) said the Congress party is falling behind AIMIM in Telangana. Azharuddin has tried to improve his relations with the chief of AIMIM Asaduddin Owaisi. For the welfare of the Muslims of Telangana, it is necessary for all Muslim leaders to forget their mutual differences and get united for the welfare of Muslims.

It is worth mentioning that the strategy that the Congress party used to make Azharuddin a minister has yielded positive results for them. Congress candidate Naveen Yadav has won the Jubilee Hills by-election. He defeated BRS candidate Sunita Gopinath by a margin of 24,729 votes. It is said that that Asaduddin Owaisi supported the Congress in this seat.

## Sheikh Hasina gets death sentence



**Inquilab** (November 18) states that the International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) constituted by the Muhammed Yunus government in Bangladesh has awarded death sentence to deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. In its verdict, the ICT said Sheikh Hasina has been identified as the mastermind behind the killings that took place during the student agitation last year. Apart from Hasina, the ICT awarded death sentence to former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal as well. Whereas, former inspector general of police Chaudhary Abdullah Al-Mamoon has been awarded five-year jail term. The government had tightened security arrangements across the country before awarding the sentences because there was a fear of violence erupting in the country against this decision. Commenting on the verdict of ICT, Sheikh Hasina said all the charges against her were fake. In a message to her supporters, she said, "Do not worry. Let them decide. I don't care about their decision. Allah gave me life and He will take it back. I will continue to work for my nation. I have lost my family members. They have set my house on fire. We will not forget it and everything will be accounted for."

According to the newspaper, huge protests took place in several places in

Bangladesh against this decision of the tribunal. The police arrested several protesters. The Bangladesh government has deployed paramilitary forces in order to control the situation. In its verdict, the ICT said Sheikh Hasina had ordered the killing of students taking part in protests through telephone. According to 'Dhaka Tribune,' Hasina's party Awami League has called for a nationwide bandh. When the tribunal announced the verdict, there was only one accused, former inspector general of police Chaudhary Abdullah al-Mamoon present in the court. Earlier, while accepting his offence, he unravelled the entire conspiracy. Former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan is also in India.

The Bangladesh government has asked the Indian government to hand over accused Sheikh Hasina to it so that legal action could be taken against her. Meanwhile, India's external affairs ministry said India is committed to the best interests of the people, peace, democracy, inclusiveness and stability in our close neighbouring country Bangladesh. India will continue to engage constructively with all stakeholders for this.

**Hindustan** (November 16) states that Jamaat-e-Islami has alleged in a press conference that the Muhammed Yunus government is no longer a fair one. It is

trying to bring a particular party to power through manipulation. The Nayib Amir of Jamaat Islami, Syed Abdullah Mohammad Tahir, said he has doubts about holding elections in the country in the present circumstances. Eight other parties including Jamaat-e-Islami have demanded that a referendum be held for the amendment of the Constitution before conducting the elections. It is worth mentioning that Muhammed Yunus has already announced conducting elections in the country in February next year.

**Awadhnama** (November 5) states that the Bangladesh government has decided not to teach music in schools. It is worth mentioning that this decision has been taken due to pressure from Jamaat-e-Islami and other Islamic organisations. Jamaat-e-Islami said that teaching music is against Islam and Shariah. The efforts being made to implement music and dance



in schools is condemnable. This will not be acceptable.

**Hindustan** (November 16) states that hundreds of Bangladeshi citizens staying in Europe held a protest outside the International Court of Justice in Hague. The protesters alleged that the current government in Bangladesh is curbing the basic rights of people. People belonging to minority community and activists of opposition parties are recklessly being arrested and are trapped in fake cases.

## Kazakhstan joins Abraham Accord



**Etemaad** (November 8) states that US President Donald Trump has announced that Kazakhstan is joining the Abraham Accord. It will establish diplomatic relationship with Israel. This will open a new chapter in the relations between Israel and Muslim countries. According to a spokesperson of White House, US President Donald Trump has held talks with Israel Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu and Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in this connection. A signing ceremony will take place soon in this regard. A spokesperson of Kazakhstan government said that improving relations with Israel is a part of Kazakhstan's foreign policy. Kazakhstan already has trade relations with Israel. Now it will be given the form of diplomatic relationship.

According to the US media, the US President has held separate talks with presidents of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. It is being said the US has taken this step to stop the increasing influence of Russia and China in West Asia. Trump has expressed hope that several other countries of West Asia will join this deal. The Israel



spokesperson has expressed satisfaction that along with the Muslim nations of Arab world, a new chapter is also beginning in Israel's relations with other Muslim countries in West Asia. This will benefit Israel as well along with the US.

**Etemaad** (November 10) in its editorial has criticised that now Israel is improving its relationship with the Muslim nations of erstwhile Soviet Union with the help of the US.

There is also this possibility that this month when US President Donald Trump meets Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman, he will be pressured to establish diplomatic relationship with Israel. The newspaper said the way in which the influence of Israel is growing among Islamic nations is not in the interest of Islam and Palestine. Hence, Muslim countries should not come under the pressure of the US and establish diplomatic relationship with Israel.

The newspaper said the US has been trying from the beginning to ensure that Israel's relationship with Muslim nations should improve. It had started with the deal signed between Egypt and Israel in 1979. Under this agreement, Egypt announced a ceasefire with Israel and started trade relations with Israel. On July 25, 1994, King Hussain of Jordan held talks with the then Prime Minister of Israel Yitzhak Rabin at the White House in US. Along with this, the 46-year-long war between



Israel and Jordan came to an end. Later, the two countries established diplomatic relationship. The newspaper said the effort of the US is to isolate Iran from the Muslim countries of West Asia. This is the reason why diplomatic relationship was established between the UAE and Israel in 2020. Later Sudan established diplomatic relationship with Israel and granted it recognition. Currently, Israel has diplomatic relationship with Egypt, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Sudan. Later, due to the efforts of Trump, diplomatic relations were established between Morocco and Israel as well. The US effort is to ensure that Arab world's most important nation Saudi Arabia is also included in this agreement under any manner. It is clear from this that now the issue of Palestine is of no importance to Muslim countries nor do they have any sympathy with the people of Palestine. These Muslim nations are granting recognition to Israel after disregarding the interests of Islam and the Prophet.

## Talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan break down

**Chattan** (November 9) reports that despite the efforts of Turkiye and Qatar, the third round of peace talks between the leaders of Pakistan and Afghanistan held in Istanbul has collapsed. Along with this, a series of clashes has started again between the two countries. The bloody clashes erupted between the two countries after the attack

by Pakistan air force on Kabul on October 9. Hundreds of soldiers and citizens of both the countries were killed in these clashes. A temporary ceasefire took place between the two countries after the mediation of Qatar on October 19. Commenting on the failure of this talks, spokesperson of Afghan government Zabiullah Mujahid said the full



responsibility for the failure of the talks rests with Pakistan. The stand of Pakistani delegation was irresponsible and non-cooperative. However, Afghanistan took part in the talks wholeheartedly and the mediating country also did not want a war between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Mujahid said we had time and again clarified to Pakistan that the terrorist activities in Pakistan are not done from our land, but Pakistan was not happy about it and it deliberately thwarted the negotiations.

Pakistan's defence minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif claimed that talks have failed and we are returning to our country. In future, there is no possibility of holding talks on this issue. He said we do not want war, but Afghanistan is not ready to control the terrorists active in the country. Khawaja Asif said if Afghanistan acts wisely, then peace could be established in this region. He said Afghanistan had refused to give a written guarantee that it would make efforts to stop terrorist activities in Pakistan in future. He alleged that Afghanistan is dancing to the tunes of India and India does not want the talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan to succeed.

**Chattan** (November 14) states that Pakistan's foreign ministry alleged that a powerful group in the Taliban government does not want the talks between the two countries to be a success. This group is dancing to the tunes of foreigners.

Pakistan's foreign ministry said Afghan Taliban describes terrorism as an internal issue of Pakistan, but it does not say that there are such people present in Afghanistan, who had issued a fatwa describing the terrorist attack on Pakistani army as appropriate. This apart, Afghan citizens are present in huge numbers in terrorist organisations which are active in Pakistan. Addressing an event in Kabul, Afghanistan's foreign affairs minister Amir Khan Muttaqi blamed Pakistan for the failure of the talks. He said that Pakistan had sought a written guarantee from us that there will not be any terrorist incident in Pakistan in future. The question is, are we responsible for the security of Pakistan as well? Are our soldiers present there who could take action against the terrorists?

**Urdu Times** (November 9) in its editorial, while expressing concern over failure of peace talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan, said both the Muslim nations follow the same calendar. They are followers of Quran and the Prophet, but the blood is following like river. This is totally against the spirit of Islam; hence both the nations should make efforts to resolve their mutual disputes in a peaceful manner. War between two Muslim nations is a threat to Islam.

**Hindustan Express** (November 9) states that Afghanistan's Minister Noorullah Noori warned Pakistan that they should not test the patience of Afghanistan.

If Pakistan continues with its attacks, they will be given a befitting reply. Pakistan should learn from the defeat of US and Russia in Afghanistan.

**Awadhnama** (November 12) states that at least 12 people were killed and 27 were injured in a suicide blast that took place in a vehicle outside a court in Islamabad. According to Pakistani media,

the head of the suicide attacker was found on the road. Several lawyers were also injured in this attack. Banned organisation Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has taken responsibility for the attack. TTP said the series of attack will continue until Shariah law is implemented in the country. The US and Britain expressed concern over the attack.

## Two Muslim leaders of Indian origin secure resounding victories in the US elections



In the elections held in the US recently, Indian-origin Zohran Mamdani registered a spectacular victory. He was elected with a huge majority as New York Mayor despite strong opposition from President Trump. Whereas in Virginia state in the US, Democratic Party candidate Ghazala Hashmi registered victory. Hashmi has been elected as Lt Governor of Virginia.

**Aurangabad Times** (November 9) states that Indian-origin Zohran Mamdani has been elected as the Mayor of US's most powerful state New York. For the first time in the history of the US, a Muslim has become the Mayor of New York. The interesting thing is that Trump had made this election a matter of personal prestige. He had threatened that if Mamdani wins the elections he will stop the funds to New York, but the people overlooked this threat of Trump. New York is a major international financial centre. The headquarters of United Nations and that of several major companies are also in New

York. There are 45 government departments and more than three lakh employees under the control of New York Mayor.

Zohran Mamdani is a socialist and he got elected on a Democratic Party ticket. The name of his mother is Mira Nair. Mira Nair is an Indian film director. Whereas the father of Zohran is Mahmoud Mamdani. Mahmoud is a professor of a university. Zohran Mamdani has been raising his voice against Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu right from the beginning. His stand is also against Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The US newspaper 'New York Times' while commenting on the victory of Mamdani, said this is not just a victory of an individual but an ideological shift. The victory of a socialist man in the world's most powerful financial and social centre will have its impact on the US politics as well. After the victory of a Muslim man, it looks like people have now come out of





Islamophobia and started liking Islam. Mamdani's victory was celebrated throughout New York. Not only Muslims, even Christians and Jews took part in these celebrations. This is an important turning point in US politics. Aurangabad Times wrote that in New York state, there are 285 masjids, 722 Islamic centres and 564 registered Islamic organisations.

According to the newspaper, US President Trump said that Mamdani should establish friendly relations with Washington. If he fails to do so, then he will have a lot to lose. He said that Mamdani is a communist and his victory has put the future of New York in jeopardy. Earlier, Trump had urged the Jews in New York that they should not vote for Mamdani, because he is an enemy of Jews.

**Urdu Times** (November 7) claimed that in order to defeat Muslim candidate Zohran Mamdani in the Mayor elections in New York, 26 billionaires spent nearly 196 crore rupees. This money was spent for the election campaign of Mamdani's opponent candidate.

**Awadhnama** (November 6) states that an Indian-origin Muslim woman Ghazala Hashmi has won the election for the post of Lt Governor in the US state of Virginia. Till now, she was Senator from Virginia state. After winning the election, Hashmi promised that she will work for the rights of labourers and for progressive development. She openly opposed the 'Right to Work' law in Virginia. The most interesting thing is that Hashmi openly criticised the policies of US President Donald Trump and described his team as a

gang of immoral people. Ghazala Hashmi belongs to Hyderabad. She had left Hyderabad for the US with her family during her childhood. She had got PhD in American literature and she is a university professor by profession.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (November 9) criticised that Prime Minister Narendra Modi neither gave any importance to the victory of Gujarati-origin Zohran Mamdani nor did he congratulate Mamdani. However, Mamdani originally belongs to Modi's state Gujarat. The newspaper said that when a person of Indian origin wins any election abroad then the country's Godi media and BJP leaders starts glorifying them. When Kamla Harris was elected as the Vice-President of the US, the Prime Minister and his supporters celebrated and described her as 'Bharat ki beti.' However, Kamla Harris is neither Hindu, nor a Hindustani. She is Christian by religion and American by citizenship.

Similarly, when Rishi Sunak became the Prime Minister of Britain in 2022, Prime Minister Modi, Godi media and the *andhabhakt*s celebrated much because Rishi Sunak's grandfather Ramdas Sunak belonged to Gujranwala in undivided Bharat. Later he left for Kenya. Later the parents of Rishi Sunak left Kenya for Britain and became its citizens. For BJP's MP Kangana Ranaut, Mamdani looks more like a Pakistani than a Hindustani. Ranaut said that Mamdani is exaggerating his Muslim identity. Similarly, journalist Gaurav Sawant also targeted Mamdani. It is worth mentioning that in New York, there are only 3 percent Muslims. Whereas

there are 57 percent Christians and seven percent Jews. Mamdani has been openly criticising Israel's persecution of Palestinians. It is to the extent that he had demanded the arrest of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Despite all this, the residents of New York strongly supported Mamdani, because they are not enveloped by Islamophobia.

**Urdu Times** (November 6) in its editorial expressed satisfaction that Zohran Mamdani belongs to the generation who do not hide their Muslim identity nor compromise with justice. If people like Mamdani wins from the US, it is clear that the people of US are not affected by the anti-Muslim agenda of Trump.

**Qaumi Bharat** (November 10) has expressed happiness that Islam is gaining prominence in the West. The Mayor of London is Sadiq Khan. Trump has been spewing venom against Sadiq Khan. However, the American public still doesn't seem to be concerned about Islamophobia and they elected Mamdani who has been raising his voice in favour of Palestinians with a huge majority.



**Hindustan** (November 9) has described the victory of Zohran Mamdani as a new ray of hope for Islam. The newspaper said this victory is not of any individual, but of justice and Islam.

**Hindustan Express** (November 9) has expressed happiness over the victory of Ghazala Hashmi. The newspaper said the victory of Hashmi is proof of the fact that Muslim women are rapidly coming up in world politics. Ghazala's father was a devout Muslim and he was proud of being a Muslim. Ghazala Hashmi is definitely influenced by the ideology of her father. He was proud of being a Muslim despite being a US citizen.

## Blast in Indonesia's masjid



**Inquilab** (November 8) states that a blast that took place during Juma namaz at a masjid in Indonesia's capital Jakarta which has shaken the entire country. According to police, hundreds of people were injured in this blast. Among them, the condition of 20 people was said to be serious. Majority of the injured were students. The blast took

place in a masjid built inside a school in Kelapa Gading locality in North Jakarta. At the time of the blast, the imam of the masjid was delivering the *Khutuba*. The police have arrested a few people in this connection. Their interrogation is on.

Talking to media persons, the police chief of Jakarta said the hands of extremists could be behind the blast. The police arrested a 17-year-old student in this connection. The student himself was injured and his treatment is underway. The police are interrogating him and are also trying to find out his links are with which extremist organisations. For the first time after this incident, the security system in masjids in the entire country was tightened.

## US proposal on Gaza peace plan approved in Security Council



**Inquilab** (November 19) states that the United Nations Security Council has approved US President Donald Trump's Gaza peace proposal after a vote. This proposal mentions the establishment of an international force for the Palestinian territories. Thirteen members of the Security Council voted in favour of the proposal, while Russia and China did not participate in the voting.

It is worth mentioning that last month, Israel and Hamas had approved President Trump's 20-point plan. After this plan is approved by the Security Council, different countries of the world will now get an opportunity to become partners in the international force to be established for peace in Gaza. According to the proposal, UN member countries can join the 'Board of Peace', which will act as an executive body for the reconstruction and economic restructuring of Gaza.

Along with this, the International Stabilization Force (ISF) has also been approved. The ISF will collect weapons from Hamas and other armed groups in Gaza and take necessary action to eliminate the armed organisations.

The US representative to the United Nations, Mike Waltz, has called this decision 'historic'. Waltz said this decision will start a new chapter for Israel and

Palestine in the Middle East and open the doors of peace and prosperity in Gaza.

On the other hand, Hamas has rejected this proposal. It has said this will not fulfil the rights and aspirations of the Palestinians. This is an attempt to forcibly impose international forces on Gaza. The Palestinian people reject this proposal. Hamas has rejected the rights given to the newly formed ISF.

Speaking of the rights given to ISF, Hamas has said that due to this decision, the ISF has lost its neutrality and has become a controversial organisation.

Israel has said that its stance towards Palestine has not changed, whereas the Palestinian Authority has welcomed this proposal.

The Palestinian foreign ministry said in a statement that this proposal has confirmed permanent peace in Gaza, relief for residents, and the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people. The Palestinian administration has said that it will give full cooperation to the United States and other countries of the Security Council, as well as all countries of the Arab and Islamic world.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has said that after two years of devastating war in Gaza, the path to peace has now opened. "We request all parties to



cooperate in turning the ceasefire into permanent peace. Let all countries together free West Asia from weapons and destruction,” he said.

The US representative expressed gratitude to Islamic countries like Pakistan, Egypt, Qatar, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Turkiye and Indonesia for voting in favour of this proposal. The US representative said that together we will try to find a permanent solution to the Gaza problem. While Hamas and Hezbollah have said this plan has opened the way for foreign control over Gaza and the Gaza administration has gone under the control of foreign powers. They have said that the implementation of this proposal will end the autonomy of the Palestinians. The

direct implication of appointing the ISF in Gaza is that now the Gaza administration will be run by foreign powers. These foreign powers have now taken the place of Israel.

Meanwhile, Russia and China have said that Gaza belongs to the Palestinian people and they oppose handing it over to any foreign power. The draft plan presented by Trump does not clarify the role of the Palestinians and the rights of the ISF. The Chinese representative said the US has hijacked the Gaza issue. This has increased the danger even more. While the UK, France, South Korea, and Slovenia have supported the US proposal, Denmark, has emphasised the inclusion of the West Bank in Gaza.

## Syria decides to join anti-ISIS alliance



**Chattan** (November 12) reports that Syrian President Ahmed Al-Sharaa has announced after meeting US President Donald Trump that both countries will cooperate with each other against terrorism and support regional solidarity. Al-Sharaa is the first Syrian President to visit the US since 1946. According to the US State Department, Syria has decided to join the international coalition formed against the Islamic terrorist organisation, ISIS. This will provide new opportunities for freeing Syria from terrorism, political stability and economic development. Syrian information minister Hamza Al-Mustafa has said that

this agreement is only political and does not include any kind of military assistance, but this agreement will help in getting rid of terrorism. Syria has also announced the establishment of diplomatic relations with the US for the first time.

Significantly, ISIS at one time occupied 40 per cent of Iraq and one-third of Syria. The military alliance formed under the leadership of the US started a military campaign against ISIS in 2014. Though the expansion of this Islamic terrorist organisation has been stopped, the US Central Command claims that currently there are more than 2,500 armed terrorists of ISIS present in Iraq and Syria. These terrorists are fighting the US coalition.

After meeting Ahmed al-Sharaa, US President Trump said that al-Sharaa has the potential to free Syria from civil war. The most interesting thing is that Syria's President Ahmed al-Sharaa was once a US-proclaimed Islamic terrorist. The US had announced a reward of \$10 million on al-

Sharaa's head. Ahmed al-Sharaa met the US President at the White House amid tight security. On this occasion, US Vice-President J D Vance, the head of the military headquarters and several top officers of the US military were also present.

Significantly, the government of the deposed President of Syria, Bashar al-Assad, was dependent on the support of Russia. After al-Assad left Syria and fled to Russia, the country's reins went into the hands of Ahmed al-Sharaa.

Before this, Ahmed al-Sharaa had also met Russian President Vladimir Putin, but it seems things did not work out with Russia. Al-Sharaa's government is strengthening its grip on the country, but Bashar Al-Assad's supporters are opposing him. More than 3,000 people have been killed in Syria in the recently started civil war.

According to media reports, ISIS has attempted to assassinate Al-Sharaa twice in the past few months. After this, the massacre of Shias started in Syria. The Sunnis, who are al-Sharaa supporters, have killed hundreds of people belonging to the Alawi community. The Alawi community is associated with the Shia sect.

**Hindustan Express** (November 12), states that the US has announced the suspension of all sanctions imposed on Syria and Ahmed al-Sharaa for six months prior to Ahmed al-Sharaa's visit to the US. Ahmed al-Sharaa has been associated with the Islamic terrorist organisation, Al-Qaeda. The US had imposed several sanctions on him. Now, the US has lifted these sanctions. The interesting thing is that Ahmed al-Sharaa, a US-proclaimed Islamic terrorist, was not given the official protocol of a state guest while entering the White House and was made to enter the White House through a small door instead of the main gate. Additionally, the national flag of



Syria was also not hoisted at the White House.

Under the leadership of 43-year-old Ahmed al-Sharaa, Islamic terrorist organisation Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) overthrew Syria's dictator President Bashar al-Assad on December 8, 2024. After this, Syria tried to improve relations with Iran and Russia, but it did not succeed. After this, it improved its friendship with the US through Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

**Chattan** (November 15) has claimed that the Syrian government soldiers are targeting people associated with the Alawi sect, supporters of former President Bashar al-Assad. Syrian Sunni soldiers are specifically targeting Shias. Some Shia citizens said they had taken refuge in Lebanon, but the new Syrian government had assured them complete security. After this they returned to Syria, but the government did not keep its promise. Sunni soldiers are killing Shias by attacking their settlements. The government had taken back the weapons of the Shia fighters. Now they are completely unarmed, so they are not in a position to fight the government soldiers.

**Hindustan Express** (November 12), states that the US has assured the Syrian President that it will provide him with full assistance to make Syria economically strong so that the country, a victim of civil war, can stand on its own feet. ■

## Agreement on ceasefire in Sudan

**Awadhnama** (November 8) states that the two factions in Sudan have agreed to the US proposal regarding a ceasefire after two years of civil war. The paramilitary organisation, Rapid Support Forces (RSF), said in a statement that it would accept the US ceasefire proposal on humanitarian grounds. The RSF has said that it is ready to start negotiations with the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) under the mediation of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates so that a solution could be found for the difficulties of the Sudanese people.

A Sudanese army spokesman has said that the SAF is ready to participate in the ceasefire talks, but the condition is that the RSF must evacuate all civilian areas before the ceasefire.

A war has been going on between the RSF and SAF in Sudan since 2023. According to figures from the World Health Organization, more than 40,000 people have been killed and 12 million people have been displaced so far in this war.

According to the newspaper, till a few years ago, RSF commander Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo and SAF chief General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan had a close friendship, but after the 2019 rebellion, the two friends fell out over the capture of power.

**Aurangabad Times** (November 6) reports that earlier, the RSF had carried out a mass killing of 4,000 people in El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur. After this, the city completely became empty and more than one lakh citizens living there migrated. The RSF has claimed that commander Abu Lulu, guilty of this massacre, has been arrested.

**Qaumi Tanzim** (November 12) has said that the foreign ministers of 20 countries of the world have condemned the genocide of civilians in Sudan and said that



cases should be registered against those guilty of mass killings under international law. The United Nations has announced sending a relief team to El-Fasher.

**Urdu Times** (November 16) has published a detailed report on the civil war in Sudan. This report alleges that foreign powers are behind this civil war. The newspaper has said that Sudan is a Muslim-majority country in Africa. It is also a member of the OIC and the Arab League. However, Arab countries are not supporting the government of Sudan, as it is considered an ally of the Ikhwanul Muslimeen (Muslim Brotherhood) and Hamas.

On the other hand, RSF chief Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo has established secret relations with some other countries including the United Arab Emirates. Dagalo said these countries are receiving weapons in exchange for gold. This report states that the gold mines located in the Darfur region are under the control of the RSF.

For the past year, the RSF has been running a parallel government, making the city of Nyala in South Darfur its headquarters. However, it has not yet been recognised by any country. Britain and the United Arab Emirates supply arms to the RSF. While the Sudanese government is linked to Turkey and Egypt. The United Arab Emirates also has its eyes on the fertile land of Sudan. A company from the





United Arab Emirates is cultivating 50,000 hectares of land in Sudan.

**Hindustan** (November 11) has accused the US of turning Sudan into a second Gaza. The US is making the two Muslim factions in Sudan fight each other.

Until 2011, Sudan was the world's second-largest Islamic country. After the separation of South Sudan, it is now the world's fifth-largest Islamic country. Sudan has 96 per cent Muslims and three per cent Christians. The newspaper has said that the Sudanese government army (SAF) has lost control of 50 percent of the country's territory.

However, the SAF is supported by China, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, and Türkiye. The RSF, meanwhile, is supported by the United Arab Emirates. The SAF has 2,00,000 soldiers. The number of RSF soldiers is said to be 1,00,000.

## Death penalty for those who attack Israeli citizens

**Urdu Times** (November 13) states that the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) has approved a bill. This bill has a provision for the death penalty for Palestinian prisoners accused of killing Israeli citizens. This bill was introduced by Itamar Ben-Gvir, the chief of the far-right 'Otzma Yehudit' party and national security minister. According to Israel's government radio 'Kan 88', 39 votes were in favour of the bill and 16 against. According to the amended bill, if a person intentionally or negligently causes the death of an Israeli citizen, then he will be sentenced to death and there will be no reduction in this. After the vote, Itamar Ben-Gvir said the Jewish power is creating new history. We have fulfilled the promise we made.

During the parliamentary session, there was a fierce argument and almost a physical fight between Arab MP Ayman Odeh and Ben-Gvir. Other MPs later calmed these two leaders down. Opposition MPs have alleged that through this bill, feelings of hatred and discrimination against Palestinians are being incited.

Ben-Gvir had already threatened that if this bill was not presented for voting in



the parliament, his party would separate from the government. He said that this law is important for stopping terrorism and the security of Israeli citizens. While Palestinian organizations and human rights organizations have opposed this bill. They have said this law is discriminatory against Palestinians. This law will open the doors to the killing of Palestinians.

However, Israeli law already has the death penalty for crimes like genocide and treason, but this law has not been used since 1962. The last time the Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann was given the death penalty was in 1962. According to Palestinian human rights organisations, more than 9,000 Palestinian prisoners are currently lodged in Israeli jails. Now, this

bill will be sent to various parliamentary committees again. After this, it will take a legal form.

According to another news, another bill has been passed in the Israeli parliament. According to this bill, foreign media organisations that harm Israel's

security can be shut down. Fifty votes were cast in favour of this bill and 14 against it. It is noteworthy that earlier in April 2024, the Israeli President had issued a special order to close the Al Jazeera office in Israel during the Gaza war and banned its employees from entering Israel.

## 700 people die in post-poll violence in Tanzania



**Inquilab** (November 2) reports that 65-year-old Samia Suluhu Hassan has won the presidential election for the second time in the African country of Tanzania. As soon as her victory was announced, a round of violent demonstrations started in the country. Opposition parties have alleged that security forces have killed more than 700 people on the orders of Samia Hassan. These people were protesting in various cities of the country against Samia Hassan becoming president by rigging the elections. Whereas the security forces have stated the number of people killed in the protests to be only 50. The Election Commission has announced that Samia Hassan has received 98 per cent of the votes. The opposition's claim has been refuted and that while all the candidates standing against them had withdrawn their

nomination papers. The opposition parties allege that the Election Commission had deliberately rejected the nomination papers of all the opposition candidates. After this they were put in jails.

The government has banned the coverage of these protests by foreign media and expelled journalists from the country. It is worth noting that in 2021, after the death of the then President John Magufuli, the then Vice President Samia Hassan took over as President.

**Hindustan** (November 1) reports that after the announcement of the election results, the government has banned the publication of newspapers in the country and has shut down internet and mobile services. Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the country. The country's borders have been sealed.



