

# REVIEW OF URDU PRESS

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## Maulana Accused of Converting Thousands of Hindu Girls Arrested



● Kashmiri leaders attempt to glorify rioters

● Russia recognises Taliban government in Afghanistan

● Death sentence of Indian nurse in Yemen deferred

● Palestine Action Group proscribed in Britain

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## Summary

A massive religious conversion drive has been going on in the country. Recently, the Uttar Pradesh ATS arrested a gang involved in illegal conversions. The gang members included Jalaluddin alias Chhangur Baba, Neetu Naveen Rohra alias Nasreen, Jalaluddin's son Mahboob and Nasreen's husband Naveen Rohra alias Jamaluddin. It is alleged that this gang has been converting young Hindu women to Islam through allurements and threats. The gang has been running an organised racket for religious conversions. The women who convert to Islam have been extended financial help on the basis of their caste. This gang has so far converted more than 1,500 women to Islam. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath alleged that they have been getting huge financial aid from Muslim countries to break the unity and social harmony in the country. It has been found during investigations that Jalaluddin's gang received more than Rs 500 crore from abroad for illegal conversions. Allegedly, some senior officials of Uttar Pradesh were also in touch with this gang.

Recently, the Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, Mohan Bhagwat, released a book dedicated to a prominent thinker of RSS, late Moropant Pingley. On this occasion, he said that, "Pingley ji once said that if you are honoured with a shawl after turning 75, it means that you should stop now, you are old; step aside and let others come in." It is quite intriguing that the opposition parties have twisted this statement of Bhagwat for their political benefits. It is being propagated through media that Mohan Bhagwat has indirectly given this message to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, because he will complete 75 years in September this year.

Russia has become the first country in the world to grant formal recognition to the Taliban government in Afghanistan. Till now, no other nation has given recognition to the Taliban government in Afghanistan. However, China, United Arab Emirates, Pakistan and Uzbekistan had opened their embassies in Afghanistan and they are in constant touch with the Taliban government. A possibility is being expressed that several other countries including China may soon grant formal recognition to the Taliban government. India is also monitoring the situation in Afghanistan. It is worth mentioning that the relations between Russia and Afghanistan were not good for decades. The Soviet Union had invaded Afghanistan in 1979. They fought the Afghan mujahideen there for nearly a decade. More than 15,000 Soviet soldiers were killed in this war. Due to the aggression of Afghan mujahideen, Russia was forced to evacuate Afghanistan in 1989. However, in the past few years, the relationship between Russia and Afghanistan has got strengthened.

Some foreign sources have claimed that China recently provided an air defence system to Iran so that it could reduce the threat of potential foreign airstrikes. It has become clear from this step of China that it has openly come out in support of Iran. This is definitely a major challenge to the US and Israel. Iran claims that it already has Russia's S-300 air defence system, but it has failed to stop Israeli airstrikes. It is claimed that China has made this deal with Iran in exchange for the supply of Iranian oil. It is worth mentioning that China alone imports approximately 90 percent of Iranian oil.

## Maulana accused of converting thousands of Hindu girls arrested



The Uttar Pradesh ATS recently arrested 65-year-old Jalaluddin alias Chhangur Baba and his colleague Neetu Naveen Rohra alias Nasreen on charges of religious conversions. Later, Jalaluddin's son Mahboob and Nasreen's husband Naveen Rohra alias Jamaluddin were also arrested. The Uttar Pradesh ATS is conducting a detailed investigation into the activities of this entire gang. It is being said that Naveen and his wife Neetu were Hindus in the past. They converted to Islam after coming under the influence of Maulana Jalaluddin. Later he started running a religious conversion racket. This gang started converting Hindus, especially Hindu women, into Islam using foreign money as allurement. As per the latest information, this gang has converted more than 1,500 girls into Islam.

**Inquilab** (July 9) states that a team of the district administration razed the luxurious bungalow of Jalaluddin situated in Madhpur village in Utraula tehsil in Balrampur district using bulldozers. This bungalow was in the name of Nasreen. The police claimed that the conversion racket was being run from this bungalow. Earlier, the district administration had issued a

notice stating that this bungalow was constructed after illegally encroaching government property.

**Sahafat** (July 13) states that the scope of investigation into Jalaluddin, who is from Utraula of Balrampur, and accused of religious conversion of Hindu families, love jihad and anti-national activities, now extends to Shravasti district too. The police raided a madrasa, 'Jamia Nooria Fatima Lilbanat' located in Rehman Purva village in Ikauna tehsil in Shravasti district. The team led by ADM Amarendra Kumar Varma sealed the madrasa and seized documents related to it. The villagers said that the madrasa was constructed by Syed Sirajuddin Hashmi in 2019. Hashmi belongs to Vadodara in Gujarat. This was a residential madrasa for girls. The madrasa has facilities for the accommodation and study of 300 students. The madrasa has not got any government recognition. Hashmi purchased two bigha of land near the madrasa and started the construction work. The police started an investigation into this madrasa in May. The madrasa was sealed on the orders of the district magistrate on May 3. Now, after Hashmi's name surfaced in the Jalaluddin case, an investigation is





being conducted again into the madrasa. It is being said that the in-laws of Hashmi are in Utraula town and he met Jalaluddin a few years ago. Following this, these people purchased lot of immovable property in this region. The police are investigating into it. During the raid, it was found that Hashmi has got three bank accounts. One of the accounts is in Balrampur while the two other accounts are in Gujarat. District Magistrate Ajay Kumar Dwivedi said the entire records of this madrasa are in Urdu. Hence, first it will be translated. An investigation will be conducted only later.

**Taasir** (July 13) states that ATS is questioning Jalaluddin in detail. The interrogations so far have revealed that Jalaluddin's gang received Rs 500 crore as monetary help from foreign sources in the past two years.

**Inquilab** (July 12) states that Jalaluddin and Nasreen have been sent to police remand for seven days. The police are questioning them. It is worth mentioning that on July 5, the Additional Director General of Police (Law & Order) Amitabh Yash had unravelled the activities of Jalaluddin. He claimed that the real name of Chhangur Baba alias Jalaluddin is Karimullah Sah and he has been staying at Madhpur village in Utraula town in Balrampur district for the past three-four years. In 2015, Jalaluddin had converted a Sindhi businessman from Mumbai, Naveen Rohra, his wife Neetu Rohra and their daughter Samale Rohra into Islam. The youths who are part of their gang trap Hindu girls by giving fake names.

As per media reports, an official investigation has found the role of an

ADM, two COs and an inspector as suspicious. All these officials were appointed in Balrampur between 2019 and 2024. It has been found that these officials had close links with Jalaluddin. With their help, Jalaluddin purchased land in the name of Nasreen in Utraula in 2023. The police claim that Jalaluddin and Nasreen have been staying like husband-wife in a hotel in Vikas Nagar in Lucknow for the past 70 days. Chhangur Baba had engaged Nasreen's daughter Samale to his grandson. Nasreen built a showroom worth Rs 5 crore and handed it over as dowry. This showroom is located in Mankapur Road in Utraula. After the religious conversion, the name of Neetu alias Nasreen's daughter Samale has been changed as Sabiha. In August, the nikah of Sabiha with Jalaluddin's grandson was supposed to take place. Before this, the Uttar Pradesh ATS tightened their grip on them. During the investigation, it has also been found that when Jalaluddin met the Naveen Rohra family in Mumbai, his eyes were on the assets of the family worth billions of rupees. In order to grab their property, he trapped the Rohra family and converted them to Islam. It is being said that the Rohra family has properties worth billions of rupees in Pune and Mumbai.

The residents of Jalaluddin's village Rehra Mafi say that initially he was an agricultural labourer. Later he left for Mumbai. It is being said that Jalaluddin used to take alms outside Haji Ali Dargah in Mumbai. Later he declared himself as a peer and returned to Balrampur and became active in politics. Jalaluddin also served as the Pradhan of Rehra Mafi village two times. After coming from Mumbai, he purchased lot of land in the village and constructed a grand building on them. He also has several expensive cars with him. The villagers say that Jalaluddin was totally illiterate. He has six fingers in his one hand, and hence he is called Chhangur Baba. After returning from Mumbai, he declared himself as Sufi Hazrat Baba

Jalaluddin and also published a few books in his name. These books are related to the propagation of Islam.

In 2005, Jalaluddin was elected as the Pradhan of his village Rehra Mafi. His fortunes took a turn from here and he became a rich person. In 2015, Jalaluddin's wife Kutubun Nisha won the election of gram Pradhan. Residents of Madhpur village say that Neetu and Naveen started coming to the village from Mumbai nearly four years ago and they purchased a four-bigha land in Madhpur and constructed a luxurious bungalow. Pradhan of Madhpur village Amarnath Varma said that they were surprised how Jalaluddin became a crorepati from being a beggar. He said that Jalaluddin has lot of properties in Mumbai as well. He also constructed a dargah there. The police claim that they got information regarding Jalaluddin's suspicious activities only last year. That time he had converted two dozen people into Islam through allurements. In this connection, a case has been registered against him at the ATS police station in Lucknow. As soon as the case was registered, Jalaluddin disappeared. The police issued a non-bailable warrant against him. A reward of Rs 50,000 was announced for any information leading to his arrest. The police claim that Jalaluddin converted the poor girls and widows through allurements. He converted nearly 1,500 girls on fake promises of marrying them. The police claim that many of the girls whom Jalaluddin had converted are missing. Possibly they were taken to Arab countries and sold. The police are collecting information in this connection.

The police also claim that Jalaluddin had fixed the amount for conversion on the basis of caste. He used to spend Rs 15 to 16 lakh for the conversion of Brahmin, Kshatriya and Sikh girls, Rs 10-12 lakh for the conversion of backward class girls and Rs 8-10 lakh for the conversion of girls of other castes. In this way, an organised racket was being run for religious conversion. As per the information



received by police, this gang had trapped a woman from Lucknow, Gunja Gupta, in a love affair with a Muslim, Abu Ansari. Initially Abu Ansari had given his name as Amit. Abu Ansari took Gunja Gupta to Jalaluddin. After this, Gunja Gupta's nikah was done with Abu Ansari and her name was changed to Alina Ansari. The police claim that the people linked to this illegal conversion racket have so far visited Muslim nations 50 times. This gang has accounts in 40 different banks. While few bank accounts have been opened in the names of the members of this gang, the others were opened in the names of fake organisations. In the past five years, more than Rs 500 crore have been deposited in these accounts from foreign sources. The police have so far received evidence for Rs 100 crore. The Enforcement Directorate has started an investigation into this entire issue.

**Taasir** (July 14) in its editorial complained that whenever a Muslim is caught, his media trial begins even before the inquiry. The recent issue of Chhangur Baba, who landed in police net, is a living example of this. Soon after the arrest of Jalaluddin, all kinds of news have been published in the media about him. In these, he has been accused as a terrorist and one who does religious conversion using foreign money. Recently, his house was also demolished without issuing any notice.

The newspaper said that Chhangur Baba alias Jalaluddin has been accused of illegal conversion. The Uttar Pradesh ATS arrested him on this charge. According to media reports, huge money has been deposited into Chhangur Baba's accounts from abroad. He amassed properties worth

Rs 200 crore using this money. This allegation has not been proved in the court yet. In such a situation, it would not be appropriate to declare Jalaluddin as the mastermind of conversion and a partner in Islamic agenda. The image that is being created due to this kind of reporting is a threat to communal harmony. The newspaper alleged that Jalaluddin's house has been demolished using bulldozers on the pretext of illegal encroachment of government land. In the recent verdict, the Supreme Court had clarified that before removing illegal structures, legal action should be taken in that connection. Such actions should not be taken for political benefits or with a revenge motive. The court had also clarified that this kind of action should be done as per the prescribed law, not on the basis of public sentiments or pressure from the media. Unfortunately, before court proceedings could begin against Jalaluddin, he has been given punishment by describing him as guilty. This is an open violation of the verdict of the Supreme Court.

The newspaper said that media should do the reporting in a fair manner, and not run a hate campaign against any particular community. In this connection, people should wait for the court verdict before forming their own opinion.

**Inquilab** (July 13) reports that Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, while addressing a public gathering, said the Uttar Pradesh police arrested a *Jallad* from Balrampur. We will stop religious



conversions at any cost. Illegal conversion is a serious conspiracy against the country and the society. This will not be tolerated at any cost. He said that those who conspire to divide the country will be eliminated and stringent action will be taken against the accused. Chief Minister Yogi said that we got information that a conspiracy is being hatched to carry out illegal conversion on a largescale in Uttar Pradesh so that the religious balance in the state could be changed. For this, billions of rupees are obtained from foreign sources. The police have so far traced Rs 100 crore. He said that our action against anti-social elements will continue.

**Urdu Times** (July 14) states that Maharashtra Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule said in the state Assembly that the government will bring a stringent law to stop illegal conversions. He said that as per the information, huge amounts are being pumped into the country from Arab and Western countries. It is very much necessary to stop this conversion.

## Row over statement of RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat

**Siasat** (July 12) states that the Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Mohan Bhagwat said that leaders should retire from their post after the age of 75 so that others get an opportunity to step into their shoes. This statement by him became a topic of debate in political circles. Opposition leaders allege that

Bhagwat has indirectly given this suggestion to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prime Minister Modi will complete 75 years on September 17, 2025. The most interesting thing is that Mohan Bhagwat himself will complete 75 years on September 11, 2025. Recently, on the occasion of the release of a book dedicated





to well-known thinker of Sangh, late Moropant Pingley in Nagpur, Mohan Bhagwat said, “when you turn 75 years of age, it means that now you have to stop and give way to others.” While releasing a book titled ‘Moropant Pingley: The Architect of Hindu Resurgence,’ he said that, “once Pingley ji said that when you turn 75 years of age and if you are honoured with a shawl, then it means that you have to stop now, you have become old, step aside and allow others to come to the fore.”

**Sahafat** (July 12) states that RSS has duly explained Mohan Bhagwat's statement regarding retirement after turning 75 years. RSS said that “this statement of Mohan Bhagwat was about RSS thinker Moropant Pingley. It is totally wrong to link the statement to the present situation or to any particular individual. Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT) are presenting a distorted version of Mohan Bhagwat's statement for their political benefits. He talked about this when Pingley ji was honoured with a shawl during his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary.”

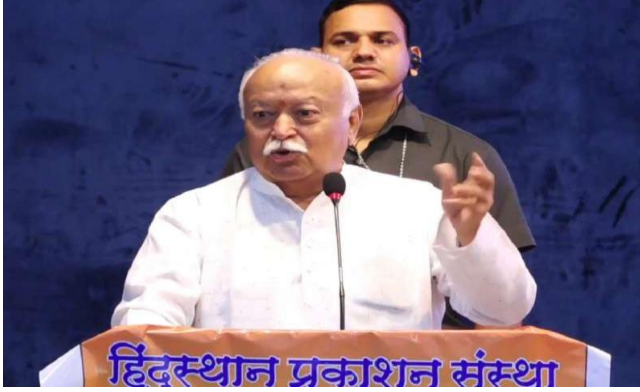
After Mohan Bhagwat mentioned about the statement of Pingley, there has been a stir in the country's politics. The Opposition targeted Narendra Modi and BJP on the pretext of this statement.

**Aurangabad Times** (July 11) states that Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut said that when Narendra Modi went to the RSS headquarters, I had written in an article that Modi and RSS had formulated a principle

that every individual should retire at the age of 75 years. Raut said that Modi forcefully removed from politics veteran leaders like Lalkrishna Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi and Jaswant Singh on the pretext of this principle. Now in September, Narendra Modi himself will be 75 years old. His beard has turned white, his hair has fallen off, he has travelled the world and has also enjoyed the pleasures of power. May be this is the reason why RSS has been advising Modi on retirement. Raut said that what a person shall do after retirement is the personal matter of the individual. Many people do lot of good work even after retirement. Like what Nanaji Deshmukh did in Chitrakoot. If thoughts about retirement are coming to the minds of Modi and Amit Shah, then it is definitely a good indication for the country.

**Aurangabad Times** (July 14) said that Prime Minister Modi will turn 75 years in September. In BJP, since the tradition of leaders retiring at the age 75 years has started, this statement of Mohan Bhagwat is very important. In the surveys held time and again, a question was being asked who would be the successor of Prime Minister Modi? The names of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari have come to the fore. Congress MLA from Karnataka Belur Gopal Krishna has described Union Minister Nitin Gadkari as Prime Minister Modi's ideal





that now you should retire. If anybody accuses him of the same, then he could also say that he had said this about himself, because he himself will be turning 75 years this year. Mohan Bhagwat may change his words, but everyone has understood his point very well. In politics, there was never any such limit of 75 years as retirement age. This was started by RSS and BJP themselves. In 2014 when the BJP

came to power, Lalkrishna Advani was the powerful claimant for the prime minister's post, but a particular group in Sangh Parivar and BJP did not want Advani to occupy the post of prime minister at any cost. The Sangh and BJP promoted Narendra Modi as part of a well-planned strategy and pushed Advani to the sidelines on the pretext of age. When Narendra Modi was being selected for the post of prime minister, the argument given was that the age of Advani was more than 75 years and hence he should take rest now and give opportunity to a new individual. The BJP put all its veteran leaders in the margadarshak mandal and claimed that it was the most honoured post. When Modi became the prime minister for the first time, his age was 63. On September 17 this year, Prime Minister Modi will turn 75 years. The intriguing coincidence is that the Sarsanghchalak of Sangh Mohan Bhagwat will turn 75 years six days before that. Now the question that arises here is whether they themselves will abide by the rule that these two leaders had formulated for others.

successor. While advising Prime Minister Modi to leave the office at the age of 75, he said that Gadkari should be the next prime minister of the country, because he thinks about the poor. He has done lot of good work for the development of the country. Belur said that the BJP high command should think in these directions. He said that the BJP had forced B S Yediyurappa to resign from the post of chief minister at the age of 75 years. Now the BJP high command has to respect the wishes of the Sarsanghchalak and Modi should be freed from the post of the prime minister.

**Hindustan** (July 12) in its editorial said that a statement of RSS Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat has kicked up a fresh controversy in the country's political circles. The statement of Bhagwat has put a question mark on the third term of Prime Minister Modi. Though, Bhagwat has not said anything clearly, but a hint is enough for the wise. Every wise man has understood the meaning of the comments of the Sarsanghchalak. While releasing a book on Moropant Pingley in Nagpur, Bhagwat said that if you are presented a shawl at the age of 75 years, it means that now you should leave your post and give the opportunity to someone else. This statement is not as straightforward as it seems. This advice by him is not less than a bomb blast.

The newspaper said that Mohan Bhagwat has not started the 75-year-old debate in his speech without any reason and neither can it be called an untimely rant. Bhagwat also cannot be accused of giving a message to Prime Minister Modi



to him that if no age limit is prescribed in the BJP's constitution to take sanyas from politics, then why veteran leaders like Lalkrishna Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi and Jaswant Singh were forced to take sanyas from politics?

**Siasat** (July 13) has said in its editorial that there is a discussion in the political corridors that Prime Minister Modi will never give up his chair and neither would he allow anybody else to become the prime minister. The truth is that it is only due to Narendra Modi that the BJP has risen in the country's politics. It is due to Modi that BJP got power at the Centre and in states time and again. However, the comments of Sangh chief cannot be dismissed outright.

**Roznama Sahara** (July 14) in its editorial said that the statement of Mohan Bhagwat has created a storm in the political circles. However, Amit Shah claims that Prime Minister Modi will lead the party till

2029. Preparations are being made to celebrate the birthday of Modi as 'national festival.' It is clear that Modi's personality has overpowered principles. Now it is no secret that there is tension between the BJP and RSS during the long tenure of Modi. Several people belonging to the RSS blame a particular individual for the imbalance in power and for growing poverty and unemployment. It looks like that now the Sangh wants to bring forward a new generation.

The newspaper said that Mohan Bhagwat may himself leave his post after September. In such a situation will Prime Minister Modi will also follow the ethics of the organisation or will he adopt the stand that tramples on every principle to protect his power. Today the question is more about protecting principles than Modi's personality. If the person who made the age of 75 a criterion for retirement, becomes a symbol of avoidance for this principle, then the sanctity of the principle will naturally be undermined.

Whether Modi wants it or not, this principle has been pasted on his door. Now what is to be seen is what Modi will do on September 17. Whether he will bow down before the principle, which has been the identify of his party.

## Kashmiri leaders try to glorify rioters

Efforts are being made by some Kashmiri leaders to glorify the rioters who fell by police bullets during the anti-Hindu riots that took place in Kashmir in 1931. This has created a fresh controversy in the country.

**Inquilab** (July 14) states that the Lt Governor of Jammu-Kashmir Manoj Sinha has ordered the closure of all roads leading to the historical Kabristan located in Nowhatta in Srinagar on the occasion of 'Martyrs Day.' The leaders of National Conference and People's Democratic Party

(PDP) alleged that the administration has put Kashmiri leaders under house arrest on the occasion of 'Martyrs Day' and blocked the movement of people near Mazar-e-Shuhada by deploying police and paramilitary forces in huge strength. According to the newspaper, the National Conference had sought permission from the district magistrate to offer tributes at the grave of 'martyrs.' The district administration rejected this demand. The leaders of National Conference opposed this decision of the administration and said



that July 13 is not an ordinary day, instead the day reminds one of the sacrifices made by Kashmiri people for Islam.

Jammu-Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, while criticising the administration, said that democracy has been throttled in Srinagar and people are not given permission to visit the graves of their ‘martyrs.’ PDP chairperson and former chief minister of Jammu-Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti also criticised the administration. She said that Kashmiris are being stopped from offering tributes at the graves of their ‘martyrs’ and several leaders of her party have been arrested.

It is worth mentioning that protesters were fired upon outside the Srinagar jail on July 13, 1931 on the orders of Dogra rulers. A total of 22 people were killed in this firing. After the end of the Dogra rule in the state, this day has officially been observed as ‘Martyrs Day.’ This day used to be a holiday for all government offices and educational institutions in the state. In 2019, after the abrogation of Article 370, the day has been removed from the list of holidays. On the occasion of ‘Martyrs Day,’ the last chief minister who visited the graves was Mehbooba Mufti. The interesting thing is that Kashmiri Hindus observe July 13 as ‘black day’ because huge mobs of Muslims looted the properties of Hindus on a largescale in different places and Hindu women were raped and murdered on this day.

**Roznama Sahara** (July 15) states that Jammu-Kashmir Chief Minister Omar

Abdullah broke the security cordon to visit the mazars of the ‘martyrs’ in Nowhetta and recited prayers. He said that despite tight security barriers, all the legislators managed to reach Mazar-e-Shuhada. According to official sources, Omar Abdullah did not give any indication to the police officials about his visit to the Kabristan. Though the police kept the doors of the Kabristan closed, Omar Abdullah jumped its wall and entered the place.

**Qaumi Bharat** (July 14) states that Omar Abdullah said that for us, the massacre that took place in Srinagar on July 13, 1931 is like the Jalianwallah Bagh massacre. Whereas Mehbooba Mufti said those who raised their voice against the Dogra rule on July 13, 1931 were our heroes. They were like Mahatma Gandhi and Bhagat Singh for us. President of Jammu-Kashmir Apni Party Altaf Bukhari alleged that imposing restrictions on offering tributes to the ‘martyrs’ is dictatorial. Bukhari alleged that the administration has locked the office of his party and put him in house arrest.

**Background:** In Kashmir, July 13 was officially observed as ‘Martyrs Day’ from 1949 till 2019. In 2019, after the abrogation of Article 370, this day was removed from the list of official holidays. It is being said that the Dogra soldiers opened fire on a huge mob of Muslims on July 13, 1931. A total of 22 people were killed in this firing. It is being said that a British military officer had bought a





religious extremist, Abdul Qadeer, as his cook from Peshawar to Kashmir. He was a good speaker. Addressing a huge mob of Muslims at Khanqah-e-Moula mosque in Kashmir on June 21, 1931, Abdul Qadeer delivered a communal and provocative speech against the princely rule. Following that, he was arrested. When he was produced in the court, a huge mob of Muslims forcibly entered the court. Later the government made arrangements for the hearing of treason charges against Abdul Qadeer inside Srinagar Central Jail. When a rioting mob of Kashmiri Muslims tried to forcibly enter the jail, they clashed with the police and the army. A total of 22 people were killed in this firing. Following this, a huge mob of Muslims looted the houses and shops of Hindus in several places in the town and incidents of rape of some women also took place.

Leaders like Sheikh Abdullah, Mirwaiz Yusuf Shah and Sardar Ibrahim Khan took out a procession carrying the bodies of people killed in the firing and kept them on the premises of Jama Masjid in Srinagar. Later these bodies were buried in Naqshband Sahib Kabristan. Hindu leaders claim that in reality it was an

Islamic rebellion against Hindu ruler. According to Hindu rulers, when the police resorted to lathi-charge to disperse rioting mob of Muslims, a group among them entered the Hindu-majority localities in the commercial hub of Maharajganj and looted them. The shops of Hindus were looted and set on fire in a huge area from Bohri Kadal to Ali Kadal. This apart, Hindus were also attacked in Vicharnag located five to six miles away from Srinagar. Several Hindus were killed here and women were raped. The situation was so bad that the army had to be sent there to save Hindus.

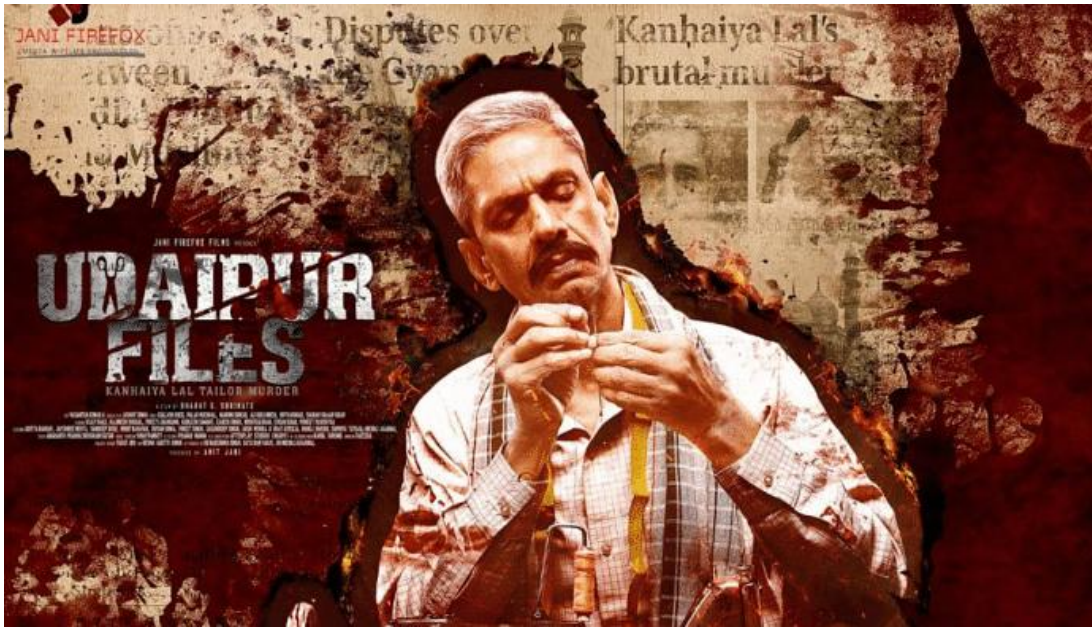
As per government reports, this anti-Hindu riots was not limited to Srinagar. Muslim mobs attacked the houses of Hindus after looting their assets in Sukhchainpur and Sambal (Mirpur) and set fire to several temples. The main market of Kotali, Bhimber and the Hindu mohallas in Mirpur were attacked. Several Hindus were killed in these attacks. Incidents of rape of women also took place along with this. On January 18, 1932, a rioting mob of Muslims attacked the houses of Hindus in 50 villages. Several people were killed in this attack and 40 Hindus and Sikhs were forcibly converted to Islam. Similar incidents took place in other places in Kashmir Valley. Following these incidents, Sheikh Abdullah emerged as a prominent leader of Kashmiri Muslims. Later a resolution was adopted at the Sopore Conference of Muslim Conference (now National Conference), where it has been demanded that there should be Muslim rule in Kashmir.

## Release of film ‘Udaipur Files’ stayed

**Inquilab** (July 11) states that the Delhi High Court has stayed the release of the film ‘Udaipur Files’ following a request by Muslim organisations. The court said in its verdict that until the Central government takes a decision regarding an amendment on the content of the film, the stay on the

release of the film will remain. The court delivered this verdict on a petition filed on behalf of the chief of Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind, Maulana Arshad Madani. In this petition, it has been alleged that the film had been made with the aim of defaming Muslims and to create an atmosphere against them.





This film was based on the Udaipur incident of Kanhaiyalal. A bench comprising Chief Justice of Delhi High Court Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice Anish Dayal directed the Central government to examine the film using its scrutiny powers under Section 6 of the Cinematograph Act.

The court said that the petitioners should have contacted the Central government before filing the petition in the court. In its verdict, the court said we are giving permission to the petitioners to contact the Central government within two days. The producer of the film will have to respond to the review petition within a week. Earlier, the lawyer of the Censor Board said in the court that the Censor Board had removed some controversial portions in the film earlier itself.

Muslim organisations claim that the film has not only made comments against the Prophet, but has also targeted his family members. On the basis of an appeal by Jamiat Ulema, petitions were filed in courts against the film in different states. The lawyer of the producer of the film claimed in the court that the objectionable portions have already been removed following the directions of the Censor Board and hence permission shall be given to release the film. The lawyer also claimed that a huge

amount had been spent to make the film and this film is about the crime world. No particular community has been targeted in the film and hence the right to form an opinion about the film shall be given to experts. Meanwhile, the lawyer of the petitioner Kapil Sibal said the purpose of this film is to target a particular community. This film has been made on an issue which could create communal tension in the country. He said the film also shows that the followers of Islam have a close relationship with the terrorists of a neighbouring country.

**Roznama Sahara** (July 12) states that the chief of Jamiat Ulema Arshad Madani has welcomed the decision of the Delhi High Court. He said the film still has such contents which could spark communal riots in the country. He said that earlier also several objectionable films were made, but an entire community has been put in the dock of criminals under the guise of a murder case.

As per another news, the producer of the film 'Udaipur Files,' 44-year-old Amit Jani, a resident of Meerut, has a long history of controversies. He came to the limelight for the first time in 2012. That time he had broken the statues of former chief minister of Uttar Pradesh Mayawati using hammer. In 2016, Amit Jani was



‘Udaipur Files’ which is based on the Kanhaiyalal murder case. This petition was filed by one of the accused in the Kanhaiyalal murder case, Mohammed Javed. In his petition, he argued that if this film is released, it will influence the case being heard against him. Hence the release of the film shall be stayed until the verdict is delivered.

arrested on charges of issuing death threats to the then president of JNU Students Union Kanhaiya Kumar and Umar Khalid. In April 2017, after a few Kashmiri students reportedly extended support to Pakistan’s cricket team, Jani erected hoardings on Delhi-Dehradun Highway and threatened the Kashmiri students to leave Uttarakhand. He was arrested after this incident. In October 2017, the Uttar Pradesh police arrested Jani on charges of erecting saffron flag on the domes and minarets of Taj Mahal. In December 2018, following the defeat of BJP in the Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, the organisation of Jani erected hoardings of ‘Yogi Vs Modi’ in Lucknow. A case was registered against Jani over this incident.

In February 2019, Amit Jani wrote on his hotel located in Noida that Kashmiris do not have permission to visit this place. In 2017, Jani created ‘Shivpal Yadav Youth Brigade’ which was in the name of Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav’s uncle Shivpal Yadav. Later Shivpal Yadav formed Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) and Jani was made the chief of the youth wing of this party in 2019. In November 2019, Jani formed ‘Hindu Action Force.’ Amit Jani took part in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections in 2022. He had said in his affidavit that nearly 12 cases were pending against him.

**Inquilab** (January 16) states that a petition was filed in the Supreme Court seeking a stay on the release of the film

Following a request by senior advocate Menaka Guruswami, the court directed that the petition shall be included with similar other petitions.

Earlier, the producer of ‘Udaipur Files’ had questioned the judgment of Delhi High Court in the Supreme Court. In a memorandum to the Central government, Jamiat Ulema has demanded that the certification issued by the Censor Board for the film should be cancelled because the film evokes communal passion and creates an atmosphere of hatred towards a particular community. It is being said in the petition that if permission is given for the release of the film, it will be a threat to the peace in the country and it will give a bad name to the nation in the world.

The producer of the film claimed that the film was based on the Kanhaiyalal murder case. It is worth mentioning that in June 2022, Mohammed Riyaz and Mohammed Gouse had brutally murdered an Udaipur resident, Kanhaiyalal Teli. It is being said that the film gives objectionable information about the Prophet of Islam, his family members, the polygamy system and about Islamic institutions like Darul Uloom Deoband.

**Hindustan** (July 12) in its editorial has demanded the Central government to impose a ban on the film ‘Udaipur Files’ and cancel the certification issued by the Censor Board for the film. The newspaper said that after the BJP came to power, there has been a flood of anti-Muslim films. Such films are being made to defame Muslims. The sad thing is that these anti-

Muslim films are being made in the name of freedom of speech. The newspaper alleged that the BJP government at the Centre has failed to keep the promises that it had given to the people and hence the Hindu-Muslim card is being played at its behest. Muslims should raise their voice against such films so that the government will be forced



to take stringent action against those who make such toxic films. Our country is run as per the Constitution and there are courts to implement the Constitution. Our complaints should reach these courts so that this system of defaming Muslims could be stopped.

**Urdu Times** (July 10) in its editorial has demanded the government to immediately impose a ban on films that spread hatred against Muslims. The newspaper said that the process of defaming Muslims started with 'The Kashmir Files' and it is continuing uninterrupted.

**Hindustan Express** (July 11) in its editorial alleged that the purpose of the film 'Udaipur Files' is to target Islam and Muslims. In this film, disparaging comments have been made against the Prophet and his family. It has not only hurt the sentiments of Muslims, but is also an open war against the secular structure of Bharat. Such films are being made to create an atmosphere of hatred against a particular community. This was not the first time that cinema screens are being used for anti-Islam propaganda. Earlier, through films like 'The Kashmir Files' and 'The Kerala Story,' seeds of hatred have been sown against Muslims. The intriguing thing is that the entire Muslim community is being defamed under the guise of 'The Kashmir Files' and flames of hatred are being spread against Muslims. The sad thing is that the government, the ruling party and especially Prime Minister Narendra Modi have fully

praised this anti-Muslim film. Modi has proved that he is not the prime minister of this country, but the prime minister of the people of a particular religion. At the behest of the ruling party, the BJP-ruled state governments have made this film tax-free.

Similarly, under the guise of the film 'The Kerala Story,' Muslim boys have been portrayed as gangs that trap Hindu girls in Love Jihad and push them into terrorism. The surprising thing is that the Supreme Court has also refused to impose a ban on this film. The truth is that these films are being made with a particular point of view so that for the countrymen every Muslim looks like a suspect, every madrasa a centre for terrorism and everyone with a beard a terrorist.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (July 7) in its editorial expressed surprise that the Censor Board has given nod to the anti-Muslim film 'Udaipur Files.' This film was based on the 2022 murder of a man, Kanhaiyalal. This film is not just a bundle of lies but also a bomb full of ammunition of hatred. This film could destroy the peace and the communal harmony in the country. In this film, a disgusting attack has been made on the Prophet of Islam and his family. Even the Muslim ulema have been portrayed as those who sexually exploit boys. The newspaper has demanded that a ban should be immediately imposed on this film in order to maintain peace in the country.

**Inquilab** (July 13) in its editorial, while welcoming the verdict of the Delhi



High Court, said that this decision of the court is a departure from the traditional view. In this film, such hate speeches have been prominently shown which can lead to communal riots in the country.

The question here is why the entire Muslim community is being targeted in the name of Kanhaiyalal murder after three years? Is it in the interest of the country to present Muslims as terrorists? If this film is not against any particular community and is based on only an incident of crime, then why venom is being spitted against the Prophet of Islam and his family members? In this, what is the point in creating hatred



against Varanasi's Gyanvapi Mosque, Darul Uloom Deoband and Muslims having beard? Kapil Sibal has correctly said in the court that this film is not in favour of communal unity and the security of the country.

## Ruckus over Public Safety Bill in Maharashtra



**Qaumi Bharat** (July 12) states that a new controversy has erupted in the politics of Maharashtra after the Assembly passed the Maharashtra Special Public Safety Bill, 2024. The Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party (Sharad Pawar group) have strongly opposed this Bill. They described this Bill as a direct attack on the freedom of speech. Tabling this Bill, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said it was very much necessary to pass this Bill to stop the increasing activities of naxalites and other

extremist organisations in Maharashtra. It is worth mentioning that the Bill was tabled in Maharashtra Assembly in December 2024. Following protests from the Opposition, it was handed over to the joint select committee.

As per this law, if any person is caught for naxal activities, he will not get bail. If any person is found to be a threat to national security, he could be arrested without an FIR being filed. As per this law, a sub inspector or any officer of a superior





rank will investigate such cases. The chargesheet against the person concerned can be filed in the court only after permission from an Additional Director General of Police. In this law, there is a provision to take action against any organisation or an individual associated with it if there is a threat to national security. Under this law, the bank accounts of organisations could be frozen and action could be taken against those who extend financial help to them. The accused could be awarded a jail term of seven years and a fine of Rs 5 lakh could be imposed on him. As per the law, action could be taken against those who promote terrorism, disrupt peace and provide financial help to terrorism.

Congress leaders allege that this Bill has been brought to suppress the voice of the people. If any poet or journalist raises his voice against the anti-people policies of the government, then action could be taken against him after branding him as an enemy of nation. NCP (Sharad group) MLA Rohit

Pawar said that it is not mentioned in this Bill that this will be used against the Naxalites. It is clear from it that the government will use this against its opponents. Chief of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen Asaduddin Owaisi has described it as a black law. He expressed concern that this law would be used against Muslims.

**Etemaad** (July 13)

states that the Maharashtra government has got it passed through the Legislative Council on the basis of its strength. Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray said that in the eyes of the government, every person who criticises the BJP and Modi is a traitor and that is why the basic constitutional rights of the people are being trampled upon through these kinds of laws. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that the government will not use this law against any opponent. He said that under this law, the institutions or the individuals against whom action had been taken, they could register their complaint against it under the advisory board.

**Sahafat** (July 14) states that

Samajwadi Party leader Abu Asim Azmi alleged that the Hinduvadi government has brought this law in order to crush the Muslims. He said that the Maharashtra government is making this claim that this purpose of this Bill is to end naxalism, but its real target are Muslims.

## Russia recognises Taliban government in Afghanistan



**Urdu Times** (July 5) reports that Russia has given due recognition to the Taliban government in Afghanistan. This decision of the Russian government is seen as a fresh turning point in world politics because till today no country in the world has given due recognition to the Taliban government. In a notification issued by the Russian foreign ministry, it is said that we are granting due recognition to the Taliban government in Afghanistan. We are hopeful that this decision will strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries. According to Russia's official news agency 'TASS,' Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Andre Rudenko held a meeting with Afghanistan's newly appointed Ambassador Maulavi Gul Hassan. The Russian Deputy Foreign Minister accepted the appointment letter presented by Maulavi Gul Hassan. The TASS also displayed a photo of the Afghan Embassy located in Moscow, where the white flag of Taliban was seen fluttering.

Taliban's caretaker foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi, while commenting on the decision of Russian government, said the Russian government's decision is a fresh turn in the history of the two countries. We are hopeful that the relations between the two countries will further get

strengthened. It is worth mentioning that after Taliban came to power in Afghanistan in 2001, Russia still kept its embassy in Kabul opened and it was in touch with the Taliban leadership.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (July 14) said in its editorial that Afghanistan is the only country in the world where the administration is run on radical Islamic Shariah law. The newspaper said that now Bharat is also trying to make huge investments in Afghanistan. The surprising thing is that Russia has declared Taliban as a terrorist organisation. Now, Allah tala has forced this super power to grant recognition to the government of Taliban. The newspaper expressed satisfaction that despite huge pressure from the world, the Taliban government is strictly implementing the Shariah law. It has told the world in clear terms that we are an Islamic nation, hence we will implement Shariah under any circumstance. No pressure from any foreign power is acceptable to us in this connection.

**Roznama Sahara** (July 6) has said in its editorial that except Russia, no other nation has given formal recognition to the Taliban government. However, several countries are taking interest on the Afghanistan issue. China has a special



interest in Afghanistan. China, United Arab Emirates, Pakistan and Uzbekistan have appointed their Ambassadors in Afghanistan, but these countries have not given formal recognition to the Taliban government yet. It looks like now China will also not take much time to grant recognition to Afghanistan, because it is more active in Afghanistan compared to Russia. China is also trying to remove the bitterness that has arisen recently in the relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan. If China gives recognition to Afghanistan government, then several countries including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka may give recognition to Afghanistan. The surprising thing is that Bharat has not taken any step to grant recognition to the Taliban government in Afghanistan.

In an article published in **Roznama Sahara** (July 9), it has been said that the relations between Russia and Afghanistan have become quite complicated. The Soviet Union had fought against the Afghan Mujahideen from 1979 to 1989. At least 15,000 Soviet soldiers were killed in this war. Finally, Russia was forced to flee from Afghanistan due to the pressure from

Afghan Mujahideen. It has become clear from the recognition given by Russia to the Taliban government that the US will not make any changes in its policy towards Afghanistan. Its effort will be to ensure that its allied country will remain away from Afghanistan. The interesting thing is that only three nations had granted recognition to the government that came to power in Afghanistan in 1990. They included Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

China is taking a special interest on Afghanistan issues in order to neutralise US. Its effort is to extend the China-Pakistan economic corridor till Afghanistan so that the latter will be freed from the influence of Bharat. There is a growing day-to-day tension in the relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The surprising thing is that Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS is also playing holi with blood in Afghanistan. It is well-known which country is supporting the ISIS.

**Inquilab** (July 6) states that Russia has given recognition to Afghanistan because it could keep the gun on the shoulders of Afghanistan and take aim at the US. A few days ago, Pakistan's Field Marshal Asim Munir held lengthy talks with US President Donald Trump. After this talks, a doubt has come to the fore that if the US is forced to carry out an attack on Iran, then Pakistan would allow the US to use its military bases. In such a situation, Russia may provide a security system to Iran through the Afghanistan route.

## Palestine Action Group proscribed in Britain

**Aurangabad Times** (July 6) states that the British government has imposed a ban on Palestine Action Group under the Anti-Terrorism Act. This ban has been questioned in the high court. Judge of the high court, Justice Chamberlain has

rejected this petition. In his verdict, Chamberlain said that if this ban is lifted, then the security of Britain will be in trouble. Later the decision of the high court was questioned in the appellate court, but the court also rejected this petition. A





Under this government order, taking membership of Palestine Action Group, extending support to it or creating public awareness in its favour may result in a jail term up to 14 years. Now the Palestine Action Group has been included among those 31 terrorist organisations which have been banned under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2000. This includes Islamic terrorist organisations like

Hamas, Al Qaida and Hezbollah.

**Roznama Sahara** (July 14) states that 140 people were arrested for protesting against the British government's ban on Palestine Action Group. It is worth mentioning that this Islamic organisation has been organising nationwide protests for the past two weeks. According to the newspaper, the Palestine Action Group vandalised the Royal Air Force bus on June 20 and damaged two military planes. In this connection, 14 people were arrested. British home secretary Yvette Cooper said that we have credible evidence to prove that the people of Palestine Action Group could promote Islamic terrorism and create threat to the peace in the country.

three-member bench headed by Chief Justice Baroness Carr in its verdict said that if the home department imposes a ban on any organisation that it feels is a threat to the security of the country and if it presents clear facts before the court in support of the ban, then the court will not be able to make any kind of interventions in this issue.

It is worth mentioning that British Home Secretary Yvette Cooper had announced a ban on Palestine Action Group on June 23. In a government notification issued in this connection, it has been stated that recently the Palestine Action Group attacked a military base and damaged fighter planes. This has resulted in a loss of 70 lakh pounds to the country.

## Ban on hijab in Kazakhstan

**Urdu Times** (July 3) states that the Kazakhstan government has imposed a ban on hijab across the country. Kazakhstan President Kassym Jomart Tokayev has signed on a decree in this connection. It has been stated in this decree that no citizen in the country will have the permission to wear hijab or burqa in public places because wearing the same will not help identify the individual. It has also been stated in the decree that no person in the country will have the permission to wear Arabic or



Islamic dress. They have to wear their community dress. This step has been taken to promote the Kazakh culture. It is worth mentioning that there is 70 percent Muslim





population in Kazakhstan. Earlier in 2023, a ban was imposed on students and teachers in all schools in the country from wearing hijab or burqa. In protest against this decision, nearly 250 students had stopped from going to the schools.

It is worth mentioning that apart from Kazakhstan, there is a legal ban on wearing Islamic dress like naqab, hijab and

burqa in several Muslim countries of Central Asia, because these countries want to promote their own culture instead of Arabian culture. Another Muslim nation, Tajikistan, had imposed a ban on hijab in 2024. A provision was made to send those who violate this ban to five years in jail. It is worth mentioning that in the beginning of this year, Kyrgyzstan had also imposed a ban on naqab. There is a ban on *burqa* and *naqab* in Kyrgyzstan as well. This ban was imposed in 2023. In Tunisia, a ban was imposed on naqab following three suicide bomb blasts in 2019. Similarly, there is a ban on the use of hijab in Muslim-majority nation Algeria and in Egypt.

## Protest seeking release of Imran Khan in Pakistan



**Urdu Times** (July 14) states that Pakistan's opposition party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf has announced a nationwide protest seeking the release of the party's founder and former prime minister Imran Khan. In order to launch the movement, Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Gandapur has reached Lahore. There he met the incharge president of PTI, Barrister Gauhar Ali Khan and the Opposition leader

in Punjab Assembly Malik Ahmed Khan Bhachar. It is worth mentioning that recently the ruling party had expelled 26 PTI MLAs elected from Punjab. In order to run the movement, the leaders of PTI have made a farmhouse in Raiwind near Lahore as their headquarters.

Gandapur alleged that the Pakistani Army is not ready to free Pakistan from its clutches. It is ruling the country through an undeclared martial law. He alleged that the army has sent Imran Khan behind bars on fake charges. In order to weaken this movement, the Punjab Police raided several locations in Lahore and arrested more than 70 activists of PTI.

It is worth mentioning that a court in Pakistan on January 16, 2025 awarded 14 years in jail to former prime minister Imran Khan and a seven-year jail term to his wife

Bushra Bibi on corruption charges. The two were accused of misappropriation of funds worth 50 billion Pakistani rupees. This apart, the two sold government land worth billions for throwaway prices to the Al-Qadir Trust of Bushra Bibi. Imran was arrested in this connection on May 9, 2023. After the arrest of Imran, his supporters attacked several military bases in Pakistan. In December 2023, the anti-corruption agency of Pakistan registered a case against Imran Khan, his wife and six other persons in the Al-Qadir Trust case.

**Hindustan** (July 10) states that the caretaker president of PTI, Barrister Gauhar Ali Khan held talks with Imran Khan who is lodged in Adiyala jail and held discussions with him on holding a nation-wide protest. Gauhar Khan claimed that Imran Khan has been ill-treated in jail

and he is lodged in a small room for the past two years. He is not even given basic facilities.

**Hindustan Express** (July 6) states that PTI spokesperson Niyazullah Khan Niyazi claimed that the Pakistan army is conspiring to finish off PTI from the politics in Pakistan. This is the reason why the election commission, which dances to the tunes of the army, has imposed a ban on PTI from contesting the elections.

**Qaumi Bharat** (July 12) states that the Pakistan army has started a nationwide crackdown to foil the mass movement being launched by the PTI. More than 200 people have been arrested so far in this connection. The newspaper claimed that in order to stop the PTI activists from reaching Lahore, the army has taken control of the roads.

## Nine Punjabi passengers killed in Balochistan



**Qaumi Bharat** (July 12) states that a few unidentified assailants stopped a bus on its way from Pakistan's Balochistan to Punjab and examined the identity cards of the passengers travelling in them. Later they pulled out 11 Punjabi passengers from the bus and shot them dead. Among them, nine passengers died on the spot. Whereas two passengers were admitted to the hospital in a serious condition. As per a report in Pakistani newspaper 'Dawn,' this incident

took place in N-70 highway when this bus was travelling from Loralai to Lahore.

As per another news, unidentified gunmen shot dead Awami National Party leader Maulana Khanjeb and his colleague. Till late, no group or any individual have taken responsibility for this attack.

**Qaumi Bharat** (July 14) states that the spokesperson of Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) Mir Baloch claimed that a fresh military campaign has been launched





A spokesperson of Pakistan government claimed that the terrorists active in this region are using most modern techniques to attack the military with the help of foreign powers.

**Hindustan** (July 6) states that Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) has claimed that its fighters attacked the tehsil office in Mastung and three banks and killed six persons. In another attack, the fighters of BLA attacked a camp of Pakistan army in Amach region and killed nearly a

dozen Pakistani soldiers. Two fighters of BLA were also killed in the retaliatory fire by the military.

According to **Hindustan** (July 6), the Karachi police raided the office of Baloch Yakjehti committee and took several Balochis into custody. This organisation is organising a protest against the murder of a dozen Baloch activists in Panjgur by the Pakistan army. The Baloch activists who have been arrested by the police include Amna Baloch and Sohail Ifran etc.

**Chattan** (July 8) states that the BLA seized an outpost of Pakistan army in Jamuran in Balochistan and looted the weapons kept in them and also took 15 Pakistani soldiers as hostage. The media secretary of BLA claimed that the BLA has carried out 284 attacks so far this year in which 668 Pakistani soldiers and 58 informers were killed. In these attacks, a total of 131 vehicles of Pakistani army were also destroyed.

in the entire province to liberate Balochistan from the clutches of Pakistan army. The Baloch Nationalist Army, Balochistan Liberation Army and Baloch Republican Guard are taking part in this campaign. The purpose of this campaign is to inflict more and more damages on Pakistan army. He claimed that in this year so far 84 attacks have been carried out on Pakistan army at the behest of these organisations. Nearly 80 Pakistani soldiers were killed in these attacks. There were a dozen officers among those who were killed. This apart, 24 officers of intelligence department were also killed.

As per another news, drone attacks took place in 12 places in the Pakistani province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the past one month. According to a spokesperson of Pakistan army, this attack was carried out at the behest of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). A total of 25 police personnel were killed in these attacks which includes the Assistant Commissioner of Nawagai, Faisal Sultan.

## Death sentence of Indian nurse in Yemen deferred



**Roznama Sahara** (July 16) states that the death sentence of Nimisha Priya, a nurse from Kerala who has been lodged in a jail in Yemen's capital Sana'a on charges of murder, has been deferred. Sana'a is under the control of Houthis. The newspaper claimed that the Yemen government took this decision following a request from Indian government and a well-known Muslim religious leader from Kerala, A P Aboobacker Ahmad Musliyar. As per media reports, Kerala's Mufti Aboobacker Musliyar played a major role in the issue of Nimisha Priya. In this connection, he held talks with top religious leaders of Yemen. This apart, he also held talks with the family members of deceased Talal Abdo Mahdi. India's external affairs ministry has also been taking an active role on this issue. However, the biggest trouble in this is that the Indian government has not recognized the government of Houthi rebels which is in control of Yemen.

It is worth mentioning that Yemen is a victim of civil war for the past two decades. Currently, there are two governments in power in the country. In south Yemen, there is a government elected by the people which has the support of Saudi Arabia. The United Nations has also granted recognition to this government. Whereas the government of the Houthis has

taken control of nearly half of the territory of Yemen. The Houthis are linked to the Shia government of Iran.

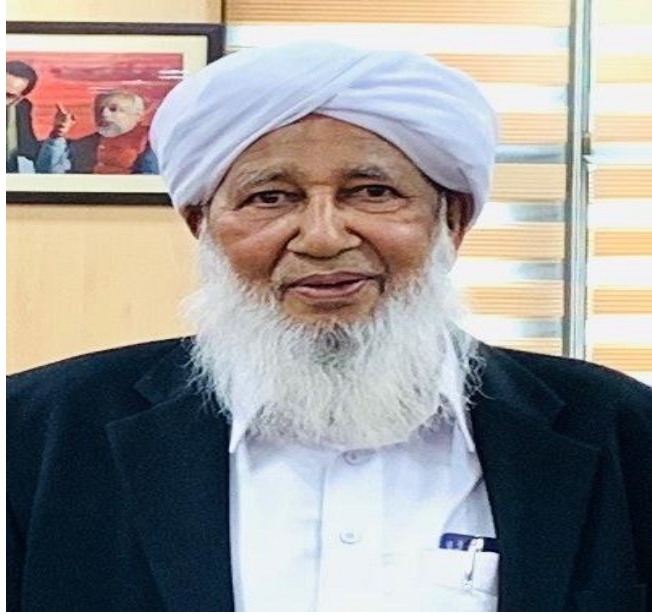
Nimisha Priya, 38, a resident of Kerala, was awarded death sentence on charges of the murder of a Yemeni citizen, Talal Abdo Mahdi. Yemen President Rashad Al-Alimi has rejected her mercy petition. It is being said that if Rs 8.5 crore is paid to the family of the deceased in the form of 'blood money,' Nimisha could be given pardon. However, the difficulty in this is that Nimisha's mother does not have that much money to pay the 'blood money.'

**Roznama Sahara** (July 11) states that a petition has been filed in the Indian Supreme Court on behalf of Nimisha's mother and the 'Save Nimisha Priya Action Council.' In this petition, the Supreme Court has been urged to direct the Union government to take efforts to save the life of Nimisha. During the hearing of this petition, the judges asked the lawyer of petitioners why the nurse was awarded death penalty in Yemen? On this, the lawyer said the woman had gone there for a job. A local person, Talal Abdo Mahdi, had kept her in detention. He had also seized the passport of Nimisha. Nimisha had given an injection to make him unconscious in order to seize the passport from him. Mahdi died due to this injection.



**Inquilab** (July 16) states that the Indian government is holding talks with the family members of the deceased in order to save the life of the nurse. Earlier, the Union government had said in the Supreme Court that it was unable to save the life of the nurse because it has limited diplomatic options. The newspaper said that India does not have diplomatic relations with the government of Houthis and hence it is trying to resolve this issue through Saudi Arabian government. According to the newspaper, India's prominent Sunni Muslim leader and the Grand Mufti of Kerala, 94-year-old Sheikh Aboobackar Ahmad is playing a major role in this issue. He told the representative of **Inquilab** that he became active on this issue following a request from an MLA in Kerala, Chandy Oommen. He said he held talks with the well-known Sufi scholar of Yemen, Habib Umar bin Hafiz, on the issue. Hafiz has got significant influence among Yemeni Muslims. He said that a high-level meeting of Houthi high command took place in northern Yemen following a request by Hafiz. In this meeting, the supreme judge of the criminal court located in Sana'a and the brother of deceased Mahdi also took part. Following this, the Yemen government suspended the death sentence of Nimisha Priya. He said the judge of Yemen's special criminal court Rizwan Ahmed Al-Wajri in his special order directed the government to defer the death sentence of the woman. Musliyar said he has duly notified the office of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this connection.

**Background:** According to Islamic scholars, there is provision in Quran and Shariah that if a murderer or his family gives 'diya' (blood money) to the deceased, then the life of the murderer can be spared. Out of the 57 Muslim nations in the world, Shariah is implemented in 50 among them, hence in these countries the murderer could



be saved from death sentence by giving 'blood money.' In March 2025, the Union government had stated in the Parliament that a total of 49 Indian citizens have been awarded death sentence in eight countries in the world. Among them, the highest number of 25 people have been awarded death sentence in United Arab Emirates.

Nimisha Priya was arrested on charges of killing a Yemeni citizen, Talal Abdo Mahdi in 2017. In 2020, a local court had awarded her death sentence. In 2023, Yemen's supreme judicial council rejected the appeal filed by Nimisha. In January 2024, the supreme political council of Houthi rebels confirmed the death sentence of Nimisha.

It is worth mentioning that in February 2025, Shahzadi Khan, a resident of Uttar Pradesh, was hanged to death in United Arab Emirates on charges of killing a child. This apart, two original residents of Kerala were also given death penalty in United Arab Emirates on charges of murder. This month, three persons were awarded death sentence on charges of smuggling narcotic substances. In 2023, eight former officers of Indian Navy were awarded death sentence on charges of spying. They were accused of spying for Israel. Later they were released following the intervention of Indian government.

## Ruckus over release of the cartoon of Prophet of Islam in Turkiye

**Urdu Times** (July 2) states that fierce clashes broke out between police and a huge mob of protesters in Turkiye's capital Istanbul. The police opened fire to disperse the huge mob and also resorted to baton-charge. The reason for these clashes is that a cartoon of Prophet Muhammad was published in 'Le Monde' journal of Turkiye. In view of the uproar, the Turkish government arrested the chief editor, graphic designer, director of the company and the cartoonist. Turkiye's home minister Ali Yerlikaya described the cartoon as 'shameful' and said no individual could be permitted to make fun of the faith of Muslims. The huge mob attacked the office of the journal and set fire to it before stoning the building.



The attack has reminded of the ruckus that took place in 2015 following the publication of the cartoon of Prophet Muhammed in a French newspaper 'Charlie Hebdo.' That time gunmen attacked the office of 'Charlie Hebdo' and killed 12 people. While giving a clarification on the publication of the cartoon, the Turkish journal said that the cartoon was not of the Prophet, but was of a Muslim man who was killed in Israeli attack.

Several ministers of Turkiye government demanded that those who made the cartoon shall be deprived of Turkish citizenship and should be expelled from the country. Chairman of Turkish Parliament Numan Kurtulmus said this cartoon is a disgusting attack on our faith and Islam. Whereas the managers of Le Monde newspaper said nearly 20 crore people in the world bear the name of Muhammad and this cartoon has nothing to do with Prophet Muhammad. Our intention was not to insult the Prophet of Islam. The chief editor of the newspaper said his

opponents had deliberately created this issue.

It is worth mentioning that in Islam, publication of a picture or sketch of Prophet Muhammed is not allowed and it is considered as an insult to the Prophet of Islam. Criticising idol worship in Shura Al-Arabia, Hazrat Ibrahim said, "What are those idols that you worship and seek blessings from? This is absolutely 'blasphemy.'" There is clear direction that drawing the picture of any religious figure especially the Prophet and his family members is an insult to the Prophet of Islam. In Islam, idol worship is considered as 'shirk' and those who do idol worship will be expelled from Islam. Doing idol worship is a crime in Islam and its punishment is death.

According to **Aurangabad Times** (July 14), the Turkish police raided different places in Istanbul and arrested nearly a dozen people. The police claim that those who have been arrested had their links in foreign countries and terrorist activities are being undertaken in the country through them. The police chief said that a nationwide campaign has been launched to eliminate the activities of Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS. These arrests were made in this connection.

## Kurd rebels announce end to armed struggle in Turkiye

**Etemaad** (July 13) reports that the chief of Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), Abdullah Ocalan, who is incarcerated in a jail in Turkiye, announced an end to the armed struggle against the Turkish government. The PKK has been fighting a war against the Turkish government for the past 40 years. After this announcement by Ocalan, 30 rebels of PKK, who were active in Iraq, laid down their weapons.

Turkiye President Recep Tayyip Erdogan described it as a golden opportunity in the history of Turkiye.

It is worth mentioning that Abdullah Ocalan founded the PKK in 1978 to establish an independent Kurdistan. In 1984, the PKK launched a war against the Turkish government. So far, 40,000 people have been killed in this war. Turkiye, US, European Union, Australia and Japan have declared PKK as a terrorist organisation. The Turkish military arrested Ocalan in 1999. Since then, he has been detained in an island in Turkiye. However, though he has been in jail in Turkiye for the past 25 years, he still maintains his hold among the Kurds. PKK is active in Iraq, Syria and in the border areas of Turkiye. The Turkish government started negotiations with Kurds in 2015. However, these talks failed because the Kurds were adamant on their



demands. They wanted to establish an independent Kurdistan by merging the Kurdish regions of Turkiye, Syria and Iraq. The leaders of Arab countries had intervened in this issue. Following this, in February 2025, Ocalan had directed his activists that they end their armed struggle. In March 2025, the Kurd rebels announced ceasefire. They claimed that they succeeded in their historical role.

Turkiye's President Erdogan, while addressing a public gathering in Ankara, said that a painful and tearful chapter has ended. Now the doors are opened for the establishment of a huge and powerful Turkiye. He said that a commission will be set up to look into the demands of Kurds. He stressed that this was not just a victory of his government but of the entire Turkish community. Erdogan said that Turkiye has won, our community has won.

## Increase in the population of Saudi Arabia

**Sahafat** (July 12) states that the Saudi government has released the latest data on the country's population. As per this report, the population of Saudi Arabia has reached 3.53 crore. Out of them, 55 percent are Saudi citizens. Whereas the rest 45 percent are people of foreign origin. The males constitute 62 percent of the total population. Whereas women constitute only 38 percent. Out of the total population, the age of nearly 3 percent

people is above 65 years. In order to improve the pace of development of the country, the Saudi government has decided that foreign citizens can buy properties in Saudi Arabia from next year. Till now, no person of foreign origin has permission to buy properties in Saudi Arabia. As per Saudi Gazette, the government has taken this decision for the expansion of real estate and promote investments. Now foreign citizens can also make investments





in Saudi Arabia, but they do not have permission to buy properties in Mecca and Medina.

According to a government spokesperson, the Saudi government has taken this decision under its Vision 2030 programme. Under this vision, the Saudi Arabia government does not want to depend on the income from oil and is promoting industries and tourism for the

development of the country. This is the reason why the Saudi government has adopted a liberal policy to attract foreigners. For the first time in the history of the country, a decision has been taken to open government shops to sell liquor. This apart, the government has also decided that those foreign companies which establish their headquarters in Saudi Arabia do not need to pay income tax for 30 years. This decision has been taken to provide employment opportunities to Saudi citizens. This apart, the Saudi government has also decided that a policy would be formed to attract Muslims from world over for Haj and Umrah, because the government gets huge income from them.

## China supplies air defence system to Iran



**Urdu Times** (July 9) states that last month, during the war between Israel and Iran, Iran had displayed its prowess by firing missiles on Israeli cities but Iran failed to stop air attacks from Israel and the US. Now, Iran has got surface-to-air missile batteries from China. This system could be used to foil ariel attacks on Iran. It is being said that China has made this deal with Iran in exchange for oil supply from Iran. It is being said that the surface-to-air missile batteries were supplied to Iran on June 24. Earlier, China had given HQ-9 and HQ-16 air defence system to Pakistan. It is being said that China had provided HQ-9 air defence system to Egypt as well.

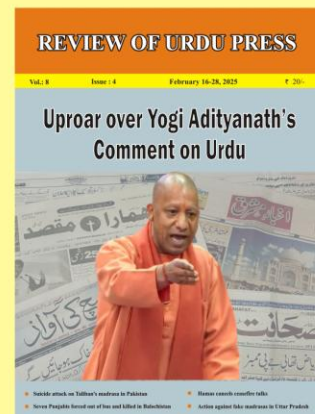
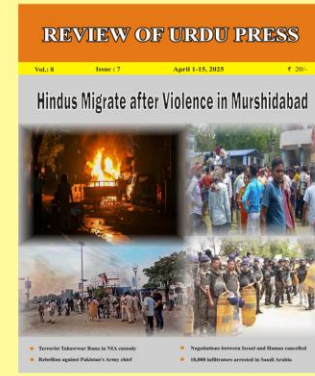
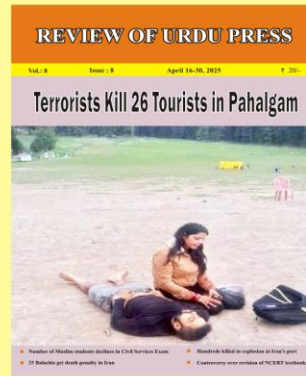
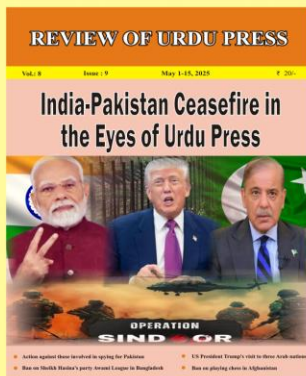
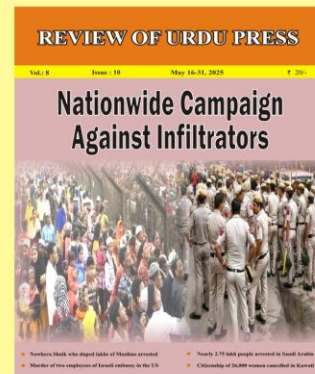
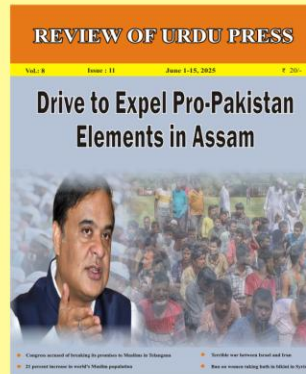
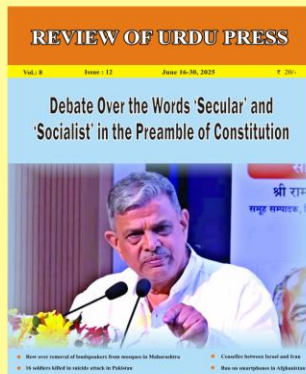
An Arab official claimed that the Arab allies of the US had information about the deal between China and Iran and this had been intimated to White House as well. It is worth mentioning that China is the biggest importer of Iranian oil. China imports nearly 90 percent of Iranian crude

oil. Iran claims that it has Russian S-300 air defence system. However, this system has failed to stop Israeli attacks.

**Inquilab** (July 9) states that Iran has started making preparations to face a possible attack from Israel. In this connection, Iranian military has been put on high alert. On the other hand, US President Donald Trump has rejected the possibility of fresh attacks on Iran. He expressed hope that talks could again begin with Iran next week. He said he wanted to lift the US sanctions imposed on Iran at the right time. It is worth mentioning that the US has lifted all sanctions imposed on Syria.

Iran President Masoud Pezeshkian said that Iran is ready to hold talks with the US again. However, there must be a trust between the two countries before it, because now Iran cannot trust the promises made by Israel and the US. If the US restores the trust, then Iran may be willing to hold talks again regarding its nuclear programme. The advisor of Iran's supreme leader Ali Khamenei said if the US and Israel try to attack Iran again, they will be given a befitting reply. Our future attack would be more dangerous than the previous one.

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