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Urdu Media Questions Court Verdict in Malegaon Blast Case



- Uproar over changes in NCERT textbooks
- Former Chief Justice of Bangladesh arrested

- Four nations announce recognition to Palestine
- Terrorists belonging to Al Qaida arrested

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Summary

As soon as the verdicts came in the Malegaon and Mumbai local train blasts cases, a fresh controversy has erupted in the country. The Urdu media's stand in the two cases are totally different. The Urdu newspapers have welcomed the acquittal of the accused in the Mumbai local train blasts cases. Criticising the Maharashtra government, they asked why the government has filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against the verdict of the Bombay High Court? On the other hand, these Urdu newspapers have raised questions over the verdict of the special NIA court in the Malegaon bomb blasts case. The Urdu newspapers complained that the victims of this blast did not get justice. In these two cases, the reactions of Muslim organisations, Congress and other secular parties were also contradictory. May be the reason for this is that the accused in one bomb blasts case belong to Muslim community, whereas the accused in the other bomb blasts case are non-Muslims. The strange thing is that the Urdu media is running a campaign that the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has adopted a soft stand towards the accused in the Malegaon bomb blasts case at the behest of the Central government.

It is worth mentioning that the ploy of 'saffron terrorism' was unleashed during the Congress reign in order to defame BJP and the Sangh Parivar. Many senior leaders of Congress even released several books in this connection. Their aim was to tarnish the image of Sangh Parivar in the eyes of the people of the country. A former officer of Maharashtra ATS, Mehboob Mujawar, claimed that in order to prove the existence of 'saffron terrorism,' the top officials of ATS had directed him to arrest the Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Mohan Bhagwat. Mujawar said that he knew there was nothing like 'saffron terrorism' and hence he did not act on the direction of his top officials.

Some sections are extremely troubled by the bitter facts of Indian history, because they want to trap the people in the web of false secularism and cover up the religious persecution carried out by foreign invaders. The Class VIII Social Science textbook of National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) has recently mentioned that Babar, Akbar and Aurangzeb had persecuted Hindus in a well-planned manner and their places of worship were destroyed. This apart, during the siege of Chittorgarh Fort, Mughal emperor Akbar had massacred 30,000 innocent people and ordered women and children to be captured as slaves. These are some real historical truths, which cannot be refuted. All secular parties including the Congress are feeling extremely troubled over mentioning these facts in the NCERT textbooks and they are running a campaign against NCERT.

Several Western countries have announced the decision to recognise Palestine as a nation. They include countries like France, Britain, Canada and Malta. This announcement by these countries have dealt a major blow to the US and Israel. The most intriguing thing is that Islamic countries shed lot of crocodile tears over Gaza and the Palestinian issue, but not a single Islamic nation has ever talked about giving shelter to the Palestinian refugees in their country. It is clear from this that there is lot of difference between the words and actions of Muslim countries.



National

Urdu media questions court verdict in Malegaon blasts case



The Special Court hearing the National Investigation Agency (NIA) cases has acquitted seven accused including Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur and Lt Col Prasad Shrikant Purohit (Retd) in the widely discussed Malegaon bomb blasts case. The Urdu media and Muslim intellectuals have raised questions over this verdict of the court. Accused in the Malegaon bomb blast case, Pragya Singh Thakur alleged that an official of Maharashtra ATS had put pressure on her to name Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat, Narendra Modi and Yogi Adityanath in the Malegaon blast case, but she refused to do so. She was badly tortured for refusing to do so.

Inquilab (August 1) states that judge of the special NIA court A K Lahoti has acquitted all the accused involved in the Malegaon bomb blasts case. The verdict has created huge disappointment among those who were affected in the blasts. The court said that the allegation could not be proved on the basis of mere suspicion. The prosecution has totally failed to prove that the motorcycle used in the blasts belonged to Sadhvi Pragya. Not only this, the court also rejected the contention that Lt Col Prasad Purohit brought RDX from Jammu-Kashmir.

The Jamiat Ulema in Maharashtra has announced the decision to question this

verdict in the Bombay High Court. This apart, the relatives of those who were killed in this blast have also given an indication to question the verdict of the court before the high court. Special NIA court judge A K Lahoti has acquitted Sadhvi Pragya Thakur, Colonel Purohit, Major Ramesh Upadhyaya (Retd) Ajay Rahirkar, Sudhakar Dwivedi alias Dayanand Pandey, Sudhakar Chaturvedi and Samir Kulkarni. In his verdict, the special judge said, "Terrorism has no religion, nor can any verdict be delivered based on morality or public pressure." The court also said there have been huge differences in the findings of the first agency which investigated this case namely the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and the current agency, National Investigation Agency.

The court said that the Malegaon bomb blasts incident was extremely worrying but no credible proof has been presented in the chargesheet filed by the two agencies against the accused. It neither finds the involvement of the accused in the conspiracy to conduct the blast, nor does it provides any credible evidence regarding their involvement in the blast. The court accepted the argument that the accused belonged to the organisation named 'Abhinav Bharat', but rejected the allegation of the investigating agencies that that the accused used the funds of Abhinav

Bharat to carry out the blasts. The court also said that the provisions of UAPA can't be made applicable in this case. The court also rejected the allegation that Colonel Purohit brought RDX from Kashmir. The court ordered a compensation of Rs 2 lakh each to the relatives of those killed and Rs 50,000 each to the injured in the Malegaon bomb blasts.



As per another news, following this verdict of the court, armed police and paramilitary forces have been deployed in the Muslim majority areas of Malegaon. This apart, intelligence personnel were also deployed in different places. Additional superintendent of police of Malegaon, Tegbir Singh Sandhu said police have been deployed in the locality as it was Juma day. This apart, the police surveillance has also been set up at the local office of the Jamiat Ulema. The families who are the victims of the blasts say they have not got justice. They said there were credible evidences against the accused, but the court acquitted them. This is beyond comprehension. A Muslim leader of Malegon, Yusuf Ilyas, said Muslims need to be patient and should fight a legal battle. Lawyer of the victims, Irfana Hamdani, said that strong evidences had been produced in the court against the accused, but don't know why those evidences were overlooked.

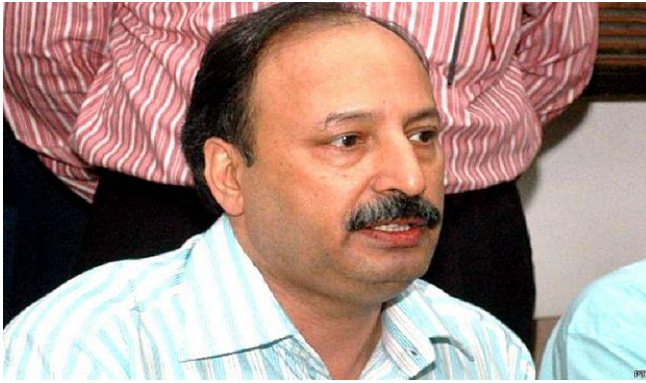
Mahatma Gandhi's great grandson Tushar Gandhi said he was unable to understand why despite having so much evidences, how the accused got released? He said the then chief of Maharashtra ATS, late Hemant Karkare, and his team had thoroughly investigated the matter and collected evidence. He alleged that some important documents were found missing from the files produced in the court. This apart, 20 witnesses had turned hostile. The then chief of ATS, K P Raghuvanshi, had said in an interview that they had collected strong evidence against the accused. Whereas government lawyer Rohini Saliyan recused herself from pursuing the

case, saying she was being pressured politically to go lenient on the accused.

Chief of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen, Asaduddin Owaisi said he was very much surprised that all the accused in the 2008 Malegaon bomb blast case have been acquitted. He said that the verdict in the Malegaon bomb blasts case is disappointing. Six namazis were killed and nearly 100 people were injured in this blast. They were targeted for their religion. Owaisi asked whether the state and Central governments will appeal in the higher courts against this verdict of the court, because they have questioned the Mumbai train blasts verdict in the Supreme Court. General secretary of Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind Maulana Haqimuddin Qasmi said that this verdict of the court reflects the failure of the investigating agencies in the country. He said that the role of these investigating agencies is one-sided, hence such agencies should be terminated.

Roznama Sahara (August 2) states that Congress MP Imran Masood alleged that the deceased in the Malegaon bomb blasts did not get justice. He said that the acquittal of the accused in this blasts case is a matter of concern.

Qaumi Bharat (August 1) states that former MP Mohammed Adeb said that due to this verdict of the court, the people's trust in the judiciary has vanished. The chief of All India Muslim Majlis-e-Mushawarat, Firoz Ahmed, said this verdict of the court is influenced by communalism. He asked if these people are not guilty of the Malegaon bomb blasts, then who carried out the blasts and who killed the innocents? He alleged that the



blasts. Later Sunil Joshi was murdered, and hence this issue did not surface at all. He said that Hemant Karkare was a fair and reliable police officer, hence questions could not be raised against his investigations.

As per another news, the special NIA court said the prosecution side has failed to produce any evidence to show that the army had allowed Colonel Purohit to be a member of the 'Abhinav Bharat' and to collect funds.

Urdu Times (August 2) states that the then ATS chief Hemant Karkare had done a lot of hard work to unmask 'saffron terrorism.' He had exposed the activities of Hindu terrorists from Nashik to Tel Aviv in Israel. He was about to make explosive revelation in this connection. But he was killed before that. Former Inspector General of Police of Maharashtra S M Mushrif in his book, 'Who killed Karkare?' tells the entire story of this conspiracy. Karkare has claimed the possibility of Israel's intelligence agency Mossad behind the saffron terrorism. Urdu Times had earlier itself claimed that in April 2006, when an activist of RSS was making bomb in his house in Nanded in Maharashtra, an explosion took place. Two persons were killed in this explosion. However, the incident was kept under wraps as otherwise the 'saffron terrorism' would have been exposed.

Hindustan (August 2) states that NIA has deliberately weakened the Malegaon bomb blasts case. They did not produce the evidence collected by the ATS in the court. The newspaper wrote that the court has admitted in its judgment that the original statements of witnesses and many other important documents had disappeared from the records of the court.

In an article published in **Urdu Times** (August 3), it has been said that it was just a few days after the Bombay High Court had acquitted 12 Muslim accused in the July 2006 Mumbai local train blasts case that the Hindu accused in the

accused belonged to the majority community and hence they were released. Indian Muslims for Civil Rights (IMCR), while expressing surprise over the verdict of the court, said that the faith of Muslims in the country's judiciary has disappeared due to the verdict. It looks like the investigating agencies have committed fraud at the behest of the ruling party in order to save the accused. Samajwadi Party MLA Abu Asim Asmi said the Maharashtra ATS had conducted the investigation in such a way that the accused would have definitely been punished, and hence the BJP government at the Centre handed over the case to the NIA to save them. The NIA dismissed all evidence presented by the ATS.

Hindustan (August 4) states that the chief of the SIT that investigated the Samjhauta Express blast that took place in 2007, Vikas Narayan Rai, had claimed in an interview that the hands of Hinduvadi organisations were behind all the blasts that took place in the country including the Samjhauta Express blast. Rai had also served as the Director General of Police of Haryana. He claimed that initially it was being claimed that the hands of Pakistan and Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) were behind the Samjhauta Express bomb blast, which was later proved wrong. In the investigations done by Haryana police, the hands of Hinduvadi organisations were found to be behind these blasts, but the Indore police did not cooperate with Haryana police in the probe. The Haryana police found the involvement of Sunil Joshi and his two colleagues in the

Malegaon bomb blasts accused too were acquitted. This makes it look like that the accused in the Mumbai train blasts case were acquitted in order to save the accused in the Malegaon bomb blasts case to strike a balance in the issue.

It is worth mentioning that the Maharashtra ATS had alleged in its chargesheet that the accused carried out the blasts in the Muslim-majority area of Malegaon as a retaliatory step. The prosecution has also claimed that the bomb was planted on a motorcycle, which was in the name of Sadhvi Pragya. The court in its verdict has rejected this claim. The court said that the investigating agency did not produce any credible to show that this motorcycle belonged to Sadhvi Pragya or even a bomb was planted on it.

The newspaper claimed that the then chief of Maharashtra ATS Hemant Karkare had arrested Colonel Purohit, the founder of extremist Hindu organisation named 'Abhinav Bharat,' after conducting a detailed investigation in this connection. He was accused of bringing RDX from Kashmir and making bomb using it. Later it was used in the Malegaon bomb blasts. The newspaper said that 'Abhinav Bharat' took part in several bomb blasts including the Samjhauta Express incident. A debate on 'saffron terror' began in the country after the arrest of Colonel Purohit and Sadhvi Pragya. The then Congress government had given it the name 'saffron terrorism.' Meanwhile, the BJP and Sangh Parivar had rejected this allegation of Congress government. During the hearing of the case, the prosecution side had recorded the statements of 323 witnesses. Among them, 40 witnesses had retracted from their statements. In 2011, the investigation into this case was handed over to NIA. The NIA found several loopholes in the investigation by ATS and withdrew some charges registered against the accused, but retained the provisions of the UAPA.

The ATS investigation has proved that the motorcycle on which the blast took place was in the name of Pragya Singh



Thakur. Following which, she was arrested and a case was registered against her under MCOCA. The investigating agency also produced the recordings of the conversation that took place between retired Major Ramesh Upadhyaya and Colonel Purohit. This recording mentions about the role of Sadhvi Pragya. In connection with the Malegaon bomb blast case, the Maharashtra ATS had filed its chargesheet before the special court, first in 2009 and later in 2011 and had named 14 accused. In May 2016, the NIA had filed a supplementary chargesheet, which had the names of 11 accused. In this chargesheet, Sadhvi Pragya had been declared as innocent and the MCOCA charges filed against her had been removed. It has been said in the chargesheet that the allegations by Hemant Karkare on Sadhvi Pragya could not be confirmed. Sadhvi Pragya contested Lok Sabha elections from Bhopal in 2019 and won.

The newspaper claimed that the double standards of the Maharashtra government is visible in this case. The government has filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against the Bombay High Court verdict in the Mumbai train blasts case. Whereas Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde had described the verdict in the Malegaon bomb blast case as a victory of justice. It is strange that the same government is adopting different standards in two similar cases.

As per media reports, a former officer of Maharashtra, ATS Mahboob Mujawar claimed that, "the top officials of ATS had directed me that I arrest Sangh



chief Mohan Bhagwat in connection with the blasts. I know that this allegation was baseless, and hence I refused to obey this order. For this I was suspended from service. He claimed that the then Congress government wanted to link the Sangh chief to this incident in order to prove the existence of 'saffron terrorism.' Mujawar said there was no saffron terrorism. "Everything was fake. I knew the truth. Catching somebody like Mohan Bhagwat was outside my capacity," he said. Mahboob Mujawar had made a major revelation in 2006 as well. On August 19, 2016, he had submitted a written application before a court in Solapur. It was said in this application that the two accused in the Malegaon bomb blasts case, Ramchandra Kalsagara and Sandeep Dange, had been described as absconding. Whereas the ATS had killed them on November 28, 2008 itself. Regarding the statement of Mujawar, BJP MP Sambit Patra said that everything was happening on the directions of the Gandhi family. There was a conspiracy to trap Mohan Bhagwat in a fake case in order to create a fake narrative on 'saffron terrorism.'

Akbar-e-Mashriq (August 2) in its editorial said that the special NIA court has given its verdict in the Malegaon blasts case after 17 years. The court has released all the seven accused. The court said that loopholes have been found in the investigations of ATS and hence the matter has been handed over to NIA. The court said that the application of UAPA in this case is legally invalid. This law is not applicable in this case because no

permission has been obtained from the government to apply UAPA charges on the accused. The court also said that no explosives were seized from the house of Lt Col Purohit and neither any fingerprint, dump data or any other evidence have been collected from the spot of the incident. In this case, there was lot of manipulation in the medical reports and the number of injured was under-reported. The court said that there has been no concrete evidence against Sadhvi Pragya. No evidence has also been found to prove that the motorcycle on which the blast took place belonged to Sadhvi.

The newspaper in its editorial on August 5 claimed that the investigating agencies are working under political pressure and that is why they have failed to produce any credible evidence against the accused in the Malegaon bomb blasts case. The public sentiment is that political interferences take place in such matters and the investigating agencies are forced to work under political pressure. The important question is that if the accused are acquitted in many such cases, then why the investigating agencies are not asked why they have failed to get punishment for the accused from the court. The escape of punishment by the accused raises doubts on the actions of the agencies.

Hindustan (August 5) in its editorial has accused the Maharashtra government of adopting double standards inspired by communal politics. The newspaper said that at one level a petition has immediately been filed in the Supreme Court against the Muslim accused acquitted in the Mumbai train blasts case. On the other hand, the government is making excuses in the Malegaon case. From this, it is not difficult to assume that the Mahayuti government in Maharashtra, which sees every matter through the lens of Hindu-Muslim divide, has no intention to question the verdict in the Malegaon bomb blasts case before the Supreme Court.

Etemaad (August 5) in its editorial said the questions that are coming up after

the verdict in the Malegaon bomb blasts case are enough to end the faith of the people on the investigating agencies and the administrative machinery. The Malegaon bomb blast was not a lonely incident. Similar blasts took place in Samjhauta Express, Mecca Masjid, Ajmer Dargah and at masjids in Nanded and Parbhani, but these incidents were covered up. However, the Malegaon bomb blast was more sensitive because it was said that the hands of 'Abhinav Bharat' were behind it. They carried out this blast as a retaliation against the Muslims, but after the BJP came to power in 2014, the direction in the case started changing. Not only the documents were made to disappear, even pressure was exerted on the witnesses. The opposition parties expressed strong reaction to the verdict of the court. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the verdict in the Malegaon case is not limited to the acquittal of the accused, instead it is a proof for the failure of the investigating agencies as well.

Inquilab (August 2) in its editorial said the Malegaon bomb blasts is seen as a separate incident. Whereas it should not be done like that. Earlier, a bomb was thrown at the Mohammadi Masjid in Parbhani as well. This incident took place on November 21, 2003. In 2004, a blast took



place in a masjid in Jalna in Maharashtra. Similarly, a blast took place during the making of a bomb in Nanded. All these blasts were overlooked. Before the blast that took place in Bhikku Chowk in Malegaon, a blast had taken place at a Kabristan there. In this connection, some Muslim youths were arrested. Had senior police officer Hemant Karkare not found new links during the investigations, the same would have happened in the Bhikku Chowk blast incident as well.

Sahafat (August 2) in its editorial alleged that this case had dragged on for a long time due to political reasons. Three judges changed during this period. It is evident that during this lengthy hearing, the witnesses changed their statements and evidences disappeared. The relatives of those who have been killed in these blasts have every right to ask why they haven't been given justice?

Muslim leaders happy with acquittal of all accused in Mumbai train blasts

Sahafat (July 22) reports that a two-member bench of the Bombay High Court, while delivering its verdict in the Mumbai local train blasts case of July 6, 2006, acquitted all the 12 accused after 19 years. In their verdict, Justice Anil Kilor and Justice Shyam Chandak said the evidence produced before the court was not sufficient to prove the guilt of the accused. In its verdict, the high court also said there are several basic loopholes in the government claim. The court said that the credibility of the witnesses is in doubt. The

accused were forcibly interrogated and their statements were extracted, which are not legally valid. The high court, while cancelling the verdict of the lower court, said the investigating agencies were not able to produce sufficient evidence against the accused.

It is worth mentioning that 187 people were killed and more than 800 people were injured in the serial bomb blasts that took place in local trains in Mumbai on July 11, 2006. The blasts took place in the first class compartments of



trains in the satellite towns of Mumbai. In its verdict, the lower court had awarded death sentence to five accused and life-term imprisonment to seven others. The responsibility for investigation into this case had been handed over to Maharashtra ATS. In its investigation, the ATS had alleged the hands of Pakistan-sponsored terrorist organisation Lashkar-e-Taiba and the SIMI behind the incident. The investigating agencies claimed that the main accused behind this conspiracy, Mohammad Faisal Sheikh, was the chief of Lashkar-e-Taiba (Maharashtra). He had got financial help from Pakistan to carry out these blasts. The accused has questioned the lower court verdict in the high court. The court has ordered the release of all the accused from the jail. This verdict of the court is considered as a major blow to the Maharashtra ATS. Lawyer of the accused Yug Mohit Chaudhry, while thanking the court, said that today's verdict would increase the trust of people in judiciary. Commenting on the verdict of the court, chief of Jamiat Ulema, Maulana Arshad Madani demanded that legal action should be taken against those officials who destroyed the life of innocent people by trapping them in fake cases.

Inquilab (July 22) states that the Maharashtra government has filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against the release of the accused.

Sahafat (July 25) reports that the Supreme Court has accepted the appeal of the Maharashtra government. The court said that those who have been released by

the high court may not be arrested. Chief of Jamiat Ulema, Arshad Madani, alleged that the Maharashtra government has appealed in the Supreme Court against the high court verdict due to its communal attitude. He said that the Jamiat Ulema will fight the case on behalf of the accused in the Supreme Court. In this connection, the help of senior lawyers in the country is being taken.

Roznama Sahara (July 23) states that Jamaat-e-Islami, while welcoming the verdict of the Bombay High Court, demanded that the government to provide adequate compensation to those innocent people whose lives have been destroyed by trapping them in fake cases.

Etemaad (July 22) states that the chief of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen, Asaduddin Owaisi, while commenting on this verdict of the court, said the stand of the investigating agencies in the country is anti-Muslim and that is why they trap innocent Muslim youths in fake charges in order to destroy their life. He demanded stringent legal action against the police officials who investigated the case.

Urdu Times (July 24) said that the image of the judiciary has gone up due to this verdict of the court. Now what is required is for the investigating agencies to trace the real culprits behind the blasts so that the relatives of those who were killed could justice.

Siasat (July 22) in its editorial has welcomed the verdict of the Bombay High Court. The newspaper said that it has



newspaper said that as soon as this verdict came, there was an earthquake in the politics of Maharashtra. On the one hand, the justice-loving people of the country are praising this decision of the court and calling it just, while on the other hand, the Mahayuti government in the state led by the BJP, while criticising the verdict of the court, displayed its anti-Muslim mentality. The surprising thing is that Chief Minister Devendra

become clear from this verdict of the court that the stand of investigating agencies is anti-Muslim. From the legal point of view, a very important question is if those who have been booked in the fake charges are really innocent, then who are the real accused in the blasts? Why the investigating agencies failed to arrest them and find the truth behind this case? This has raised a serious question about the efficiency of our investigating agencies and their fairness is also under threat. The government should review the efficiency of investigating agencies and take stringent action against inefficient officers.

Awadhnama (July 25) said in its editorial that the verdict of the court has proved that every Muslim is not a terrorist. Muslims got justice in a case for the first time. BJP leader Kirit Somaiya criticised the verdict of the court. He said this verdict is not based on justice. He said the relatives of the innocent citizens killed in the Mumbai trains blasts did not get justice.

Etemaad (July 23) in its editorial has described the verdict of the court as a victory of truth and justice. The newspaper said that the investigating agencies have failed to produce any scientific evidence against the accused in the court. The newspaper expressed hope that these innocent people will get justice from the Supreme Court as well.

Hindustan (July 25) in its editorial said the Bombay High Court has declared the accused in the Mumbai train blasts as innocent after much deliberation. The

Fadnavis immediately announced that this verdict of the Bombay High Court will be questioned in the Supreme Court. Anticipating the intentions of the government, the Supreme Court also issued an immediate stay order on the verdict of the high court. The court also directed that the accused shall not be sent to the jail now.

Sahafat (July 23) in its editorial alleged that the stand of the investigating agencies and police is anti-Muslim and that is the reason why they trap Muslim youths in fake charges and destroy their lives. This verdict in the bomb blasts that took place in the trains in Mumbai is not the first incident. Nearly 33 people were killed and 80 others were injured in the terrorist attack that took place on Akshardham temple in Gandhinagar in 2002. The lower court had found six persons as guilty but the Supreme Court had ordered the release of all the accused due to lack of evidence. In the same manner, a special court had found four accused as guilty in the serial bomb blasts that took place in Jaipur in 2008, but the high court released them due to lack of evidence. The newspaper demanded that it should be ensured in the Indian judicial system that no innocent person shall be given punishment on fake charges. Along with this, stringent legal action should also be taken against those police officials who trap innocents in fake charges.

Inquilab (July 23) in its editorial said that no person shall be arrested if the investigating agencies do not have any

credible evidence against him. The investigating agencies generally catch innocent persons due to pressure from people and claim that they have solved the case. Later, on the basis of incomplete investigation and uncorroborated

testimonies, an attempt was made to punish innocent people in the court. This is injustice towards the accused and wastes the time of the court. It is unfortunate that the investigating agencies target people belonging to a particular community.

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat holds talks with Muslim religious leaders



Aurangabad Times (July 25) states that the Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, Mohan Bhagwat, held a meeting with Muslim religious leaders, intellectuals and thinkers for nearly three hours at Haryana Bhawan in New Delhi. In this meeting, apart from the top leaders of Sangh, more than 70 Muslim religious leaders, intellectuals and thinkers took part. In the meeting, the chief of All India Imam Organisation Umer Ahmed Ilyasi and several other office-bearers of RSS including Sarkaryavah Dattatreya Hosabale, Sah Sarkaryavah Dr Krishna Gopal, Ramlal and Indresh Kumar took part. According to the newspaper, it is not clear what transpired at this meeting.

It is worth mentioning that earlier Mohan Bhagwat had held talks with several Muslim religious leaders in September 2022 as well. During that meeting, discussions were held on issues like Gyanvapi controversy, hijab and population control. During this time, Bhagwat had also gone to a masjid in Delhi.

It is worth mentioning that the RSS has been holding talks with Muslim Ulema

and other prominent people of Muslim community through its affiliated organisation Muslim Rashtriya Manch. In 2023, the Muslim Rashtriya Manch had announced that it would hold a nationwide campaign for 'one nation, one flag and one national anthem.' In September 2021, while addressing a programme of Muslim thinkers, Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat said the ancestors of the Hindus and Muslims living in Bharat are same, hence there is no need for Muslims in the country to have any fear. He said that we need to think about the domination of Bharat, not the domination of Muslims. Sangh leader Indresh Kumar had visited Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin in Delhi in 2022 and offered a chadar there and also lighted an earthen lamp.

Sahafat (July 27) states that the mouthpiece of Shiv Sena (UBT), 'Saamana' has welcomed the meeting of Mohan Bhagwat with Muslim intellectuals. In the editorial of the Saamana, it has been said that Mohan Bhagwat had tried to understand the sentiments of Muslims and their difficulties. Saamana said that some people are trying to create division in the



society in the name of Hindutva. In such a situation, this step by Mohan Bhagwat is commendable. The DNA of Hindus and Muslims in Bharat is the same and hence the two communities should work together. We all are travelling in the same boat. If this boat capsizes, we all will get drowned. The mouthpiece of Shiv Sena asked whether the Hinduvadi workers of BJP will welcome these efforts of Mohan Bhagwat?

In an article published in **Roznama Sahara** (July 28), it has been said that Mohan Bhagwat and senior leaders of the Sangh held a meeting with the imams of the masjids at the Haryana Bhawan in Delhi on July 24. Though no statement on behalf of the Sangh has been issued after the meeting, the national president of All India Imam Organisation and the imam of a masjid in Delhi, Umer Ahmed Ilyasi told media that it has been decided at the meeting that mutual discussions shall be held in order to remove the misunderstandings between Hindus and Muslims. Now, who has this misunderstanding and what is it, that he did not tell.

It has been said in the article that the aim of the Sangh is not hidden from anyone. Its aim is to establish Hindu Rashtra in the country. One hundred years have passed since the establishment of Sangh. In the past 100 years, neither it has hidden its goal nor it has ever hidden its views on Muslims. Though Sangh claims to be a cultural organisation, in reality politics runs like blood in its veins. It is due to its effort that the BJP gained power. The BJP is in power at the Centre and in several

states since 2014. Since then, despite having a secular and democratic Constitution, how the country is being turned into a Hindu Rashtra is not hidden from anyone. The reins of BJP are always in the hands of the Sangh.

The newspaper said that though Indian Muslims are facing several problems soon after Independence itself, the

tough test had begun for Muslims from 2014. Neither their life and property are safe, nor their places of worship are safe. Every aware citizen of the country knows that the RSS and BJP have built a high wall of hatred and enmity between Hindus and Muslims as per their political needs and under the 80-20 formula. No stone has been left unturned to prove that Muslims and Hindus are enemies in the eyes of the new generation of Hindus. Now the Sangh is trying to fool the world by calling this act a misunderstanding.

It is claimed in the article that Mohan Bhagwat has made a special programme on September 6, 2021 in order to remove the misunderstandings between Hindus and Muslims. In this meeting Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, renowned Muslim thinker Maulana Kalim Siddiqui, Islamic scholar Syed Abdullah Tariq and Mufti Atahar Shasmi have also been invited. In 2022, on the invitation of the national president of All India Imam Organisation Umer Ahmed Ilyasi, Mohan Bhagwat visited his masjid and the madrasa. Not only this, many important Muslim personalities also met Mohan Bhagwat. They included former chief election commissioner S Y Qureishi, former Lt Governor of Delhi Najeeb Jung, former Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University Zameeruddin Shah and renowned journalist Saheed Siddiqui. Those who met Mohan Bhagwat included the national president of Jamiat Ulema Maulana Arshad Madani.

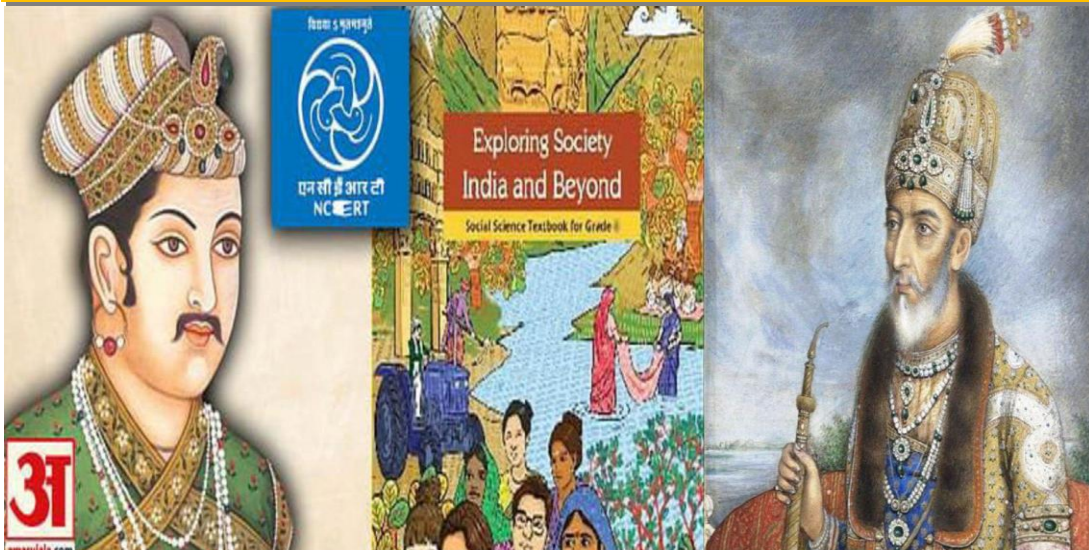
The newspaper claimed that on July 24, 2025 Mohan Bhagwat held a meeting

with the imams of the masjids belonging to All India Imam Organisation at the Haryana Bhawan in Delhi. Everybody's eyes were on this meeting, but when they dug up the mountain, they found a dead mouse. Whatever came out was just the same old stuff and the drum of national interest and nationalism was beaten. The question here is that when will Sangh start a similar dialogue with Hindu intellectuals and the pujaris of the mandirs? The Sangh should shut the mouths of those who spew venom against Muslims before holding talks with Muslims. The Sangh should take on those anti-Muslim forces and governments who are hell bent on destroying the lives, property, honour and

dignity of Muslims, besides destroying their places of worship, madrasas, khangarhs and graveyards. If Sangh does not do that, then what is the benefit from Mohan Bhagwat holding these kinds of dialogues with Muslims?

The reality is that the Sangh has started a new drama of dialogue in the backdrop of Assembly elections in Bihar, West Bengal and Assam to mislead Muslims who are victims of persecution by BJP governments. This is the reason why the Sangh is using All India Imam Organisation. Ghalib had once said, "There are some who appear something, in reality are something else, and they deceive us openly."

Uproar over changes in NCERT textbooks



Roznama Sahara (July 17) states that the National Council for Educational Research and Training has interpreted the Mughal period in a new way in the new textbook for Class 8 Social Science. It is being said in this book that the reign of Akbar was a mixture of cruelty and tolerance. Whereas Aurangzeb as a military ruler banned non-Islamic rituals and imposed 'Jizya' (or Jazia) tax on non-Muslims. This book will be taught in schools this year. In the book, the founder of Mughal empire, Babar, has been described as a Turk-Mongol ruler and a military policy maker. It has been said in

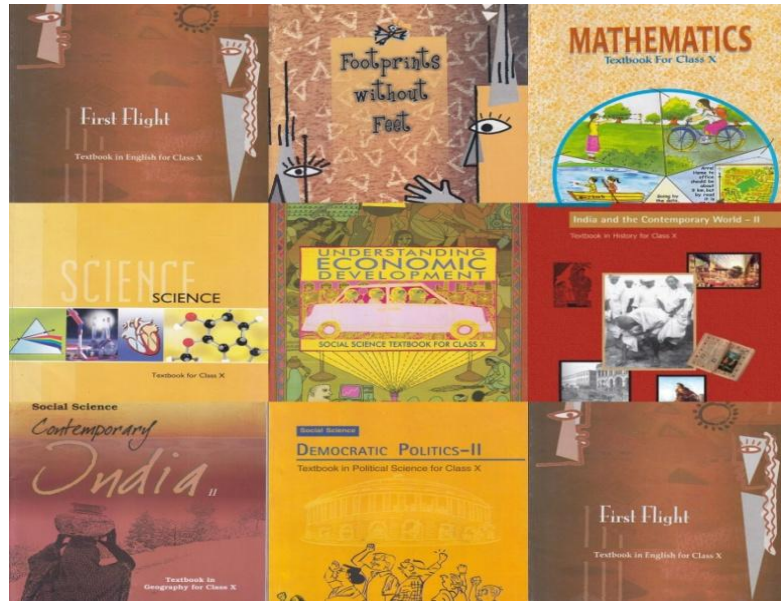
this book that Babar had defeated Ibrahim Lodhi in the first battle of Panipat in 1526 with the help of gunpower and artillery, thereby ending the Delhi Sultanate. Babar's son Humayun had fought to save the Mughal empire. However, he had to face defeat at the hands of Sher Shah Suri and he fled to Iran.

It is said in this book that in the second battle of Panipat, Akbar captured Hindu ruler Hemu and slit his throat. It is also mentioned in the book that in 1568, after successfully capturing the Chittorgarh fort, Akbar committed the mass murder of

30,000 ordinary people and sold women and children as slaves. Later he ended the 'jazia tax' system. Rajputs were given posts and he adopted a liberal policy. He translated Hindu books like Mahabharat, Ramayan, Bhagwat Gita and Panchatantra into Persian while being at Fatehpur Sikri. In this book, Akbar's successors Jahangir and Shahjahan have been described as lovers of art and the rulers who built several historical buildings. In this connection, the construction of Taj Mahal by Shahjahan has been specially mentioned.

It has also been said in this book that in the war for succession following Shahjahan's illness, Aurangzeb killed his three brothers and kept his father Shahjahan in detention. The book mentions in detail the demolition of the temples in Banaras, Mathura and Somnath by Aurangzeb. This apart, he has also been accused of torturing Jains, Sikhs and the Sufis. Similarly, the Mughal period and the Delhi Sultanate have been totally removed from Class 7 history and geography textbooks. Whereas in this book, government programmes like Mahakumbh, 'Make in India' and 'Beti Bachao Beti Pathao' have been specially included.

Akbar-e-Mashriq (July 19) states that in the NCERT Class VIII textbook 'Exploring society: India and beyond,' it has been claimed that the invaders came to India from Central Asia with the intention of spreading Islam and they used the sword for religious conversion. They imposed 'jazia tax' on non-Muslims. Delhi's sultan Alauddin Khilji attacked temples in the religious centres of Hindus like Srirangam, Madurai, Chidambaram and Rameshwaram in order to spread Islam. During this time, apart from demolishing the temples of



Hindus, Buddhists and Jains, their sacred murtis were also broken so that they could be humiliated and economic and social pressure could be exerted to make them convert to Islam.

In the book, while mentioning about the attack of Taimur Lang in 1398, it has been said that the aim of this attack was to launch a jihad against the kafirs, loot their properties and to make them slaves. Professor at department of history at Shyamlal College in Delhi, Dr Jitendra Kumar Meena said the historical events were distorted and presented in a communal manner in this book. He said there is no credible evidence to prove that the invaders came from Central Asia to spread Islam in Bharat. He said that Mahmoud Ghaznavi had targeted masjids also along with temples for the loot. Meena argued that the purpose of extracting 'jazia tax' was to offer protection to non-Muslims.

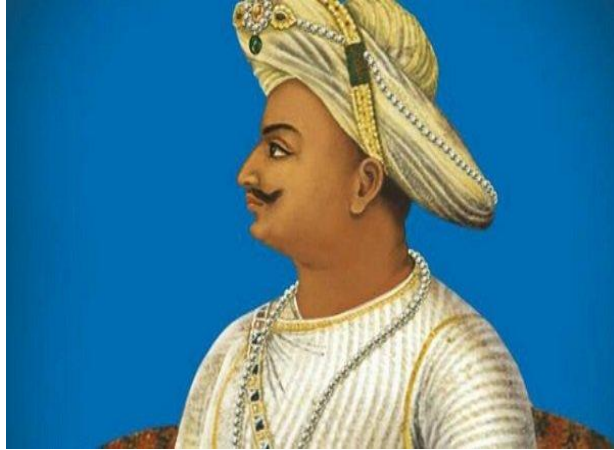
Roznama Sahara (July 23) states that former chief minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik criticised that the chapter on Paika Rebellion that took place in Odisha has been removed from this textbook. He said that it was a defining moment in the freedom struggle of Odisha, and it is not correct to overlook it. Patnaik said that the brave Paikas revolted against the British government in 1817. He

demanding that the incident should be included in the textbooks again.

Roznama Sahara (July 19) in its editorial alleged that the BJP government is presenting the country's history in a distorted manner. The government is teaching history to the children in such a manner that a feeling of hatred is created in their minds against Muslims. This effort by the government is a threat to national integration. It is being said in the editorial that the director of NCERT Prof Dinesh Prasad Saklani had claimed that the facts given in this books are believable and are based on historical books. In this connection, he has mentioned about 'Babarnama', 'Banaras Gazetteer,' 'Masir-e-Alamgiri,' and 'The History and Culture of Indian people.' The newspaper alleged that the books describes Muslim rulers as bigots, tyrants and those who spread Islam on the strength of sword so that hatred is filled in the minds of the people of the country against them.

Inquilab (July 18) in its editorial alleged that the government is deliberately filling the minds of the new generation with hatred in the guise of history books. Recently, in the new books published by the NCERT, the Mughal rulers are described as cruel and who forced non-Muslims to become Muslims on the strength of their sword and also as the ones who destroyed temples. In this book, it has also been claimed that when Akbar attacked the Chittorgarh fort, he had massacred 30,000 people there, which included women and children.

The book also mentions the message sent by Akbar, in which he had stated that, "we have captured the forts and towns of the *kafirs*. With the help of bloodthirsty swords, we have to erase all signs of disbelief from their hearts, and so we have also destroyed their temples." It is being said in the book that Aurangzeb had destroyed and ruined the places of worship of non-Muslims. The murtis were broken and they were buried in the steps of the



masjids so that the namazis crush these murtis under their feet while offering the namaz.

Hindustan (July 26) in its editorial alleged that the government that is in power at the Centre is now running a campaign to defame the Muslim rulers through textbooks. In this NCERT book, it has been claimed that Babar, Akbar and other Mughal rulers killed innocent citizens and women and children were taken as slaves in huge numbers. During this time, the temples were also destroyed and the murtis were broken. In this book, Aurangzeb has been described as a ruler who destroyed mandirs. The newspaper has demanded immediate withdrawal of these kind of books.

In its July 25 edition, the newspaper alleged that the ruling party, instead of taking any positive steps, is filling hatred in the minds of the future generations through textbooks. From 2014 till today, more than one lakh schools have been closed. Due to this, more than two crore children have left studies and are staying at homes. In the name of new education policy, the government is destroying the basic structure of school education. On the pretext of the new education policy, the RSS is imposing its agenda of Hindu Rashtra on the new generation. This effort of RSS is strongly condemnable and disgusting.

While condemning, **Etemaad** (July 22) in its editorial said the Sangh Parivar is destroying the history of the country in

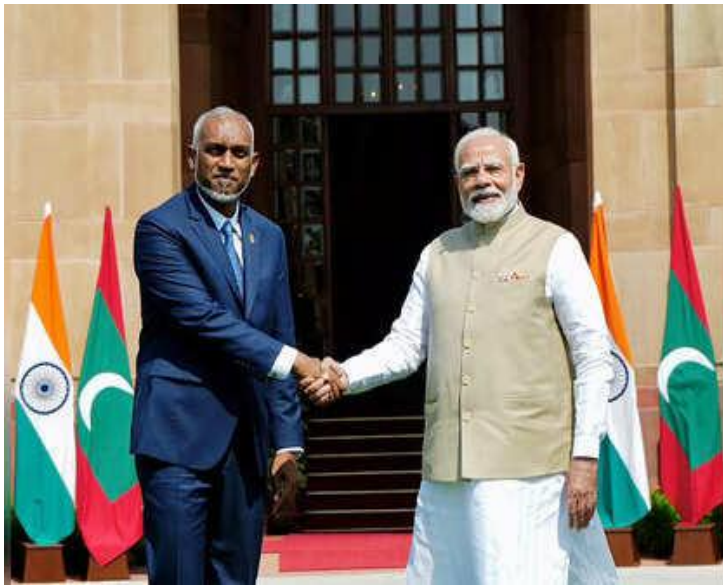
order to achieve its political aim. Tipu Sultan is presented as a villain and hatred is filled in the minds of the new generation in the name of history. This conspiracy by the Sangh Parivar is not in the interest of the country and there would be serious consequences for it in future.

Hindustan Express (July 25) in its editorial, while condemning the BJP government for poisoning the minds and

hearts of the new generation in the guise of textbooks, said this effort of the ruling group is harmful to the national unity and integration of the country.

Akbar-e-Mashriq (July 28) in its editorial condemned the conspiracy to give a communal twist to the history of the country through the textbooks and described it as harmful to the unity and integrity of the country.

India gives Rs 5,000 crore loan to Maldives



Qaumi Tanzeem (July 26) states that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his visit to Maldives, announced a loan of Rs 5,000 crore to Maldives for its development. Prime Minister Modi also took part in the Independence Day celebrations of Maldives along with Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu. Following this, in a joint press conference with Muizzu, Modi said that Bharat is committed to the growth and prosperity of Maldives. Hence we took the decision to extend a loan of Rs 5,000 crore to Maldives. The government is trying to do business with Maldives in Indian currency. Modi said the manner in which UPI is being expanded in Maldives, it would give a major boost to tourism.

Roznama Sahara (July 27) states that eight agreements were signed between

Bharat and Maldives. Prime Minister Modi also held talks with Maldives Vice-President Hussein Muhammed Latif, Speaker of Maldives Parliament Abdul Rahim Abdullah and former president Mohamed Nasheed. Prime Minister Modi and President Muizzu also inaugurated the new building of Defence Ministry in Male. Modi also planted a mango tree in Maldives under 'one tree in the name of mother' campaign. This apart, India has also given 72 military vehicles as a gift to Maldives. On this occasion, Prime Minister Modi said that Maldives is India's closest and trusted neighbour. Maldives is not only an integral part of India's 'Neighbourhood First Policy' but also has a special place in its Mahasagar vision.

Roznama Sahara (August 3) has published a special supplement on Maldives. While discussing about the friendship between Bharat and Maldives in it, it was believed at one point of time that Maldives will become a second Pakistan and the military will seize power there, but Bharat did not allow it to happen. During this time, Bharat extended help to Maldives and even sent the military to save the democracy there. In 1988, when the army tried to overthrow the then government of Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, Gayoom

contacted the then prime minister of India Rajiv Gandhi and the Indian military went to Maldives and foiled a military coup

attempt. Following this, the relationship between Bharat and Maldives got strengthened further.

Terrorists belonging to Al Qaida arrested

Qaumi Tanzeem (July 30) states that the Gujarat ATS has arrested Shama Parveen, a 30-year-old terrorist belonging to Islamic terrorist organisation Al Qaida, from Bengaluru. Shama originally belongs to Jharkhand. Many equipments were also seized from this woman, which confirms her contacts with Pakistan. Gujarat Home Minister Harsh Sanghavi said that Gujarat ATS had arrested four other terrorists belonging to this module earlier itself. In this connection, the first arrest was that of Mohammed Faiq in Delhi. Following his interrogation, Shama Parveen was arrested. Shama was the leader of this terrorist gang.

Etemaad (July 13) states that Mohammed Faiq was arrested from Daryaganj locality in Delhi. Following his interrogation, Ahmedabad resident



Mohammad Fardeen, Gujarat's Modasa resident Saifullah Qureshi and Noida resident Jishan Ali were arrested. Those who have been arrested are in 20-25 age group. They were connected to each other through social media. They were making preparations to carry out bomb blasts in several places in the country with foreign help. Huge quantities of explosives were also seized from their possession.

Former Bangladesh Chief Justice arrested



Aurangabad Times (July 26) reports that the intelligence branch of Bangladesh police arrested former Chief Justice of Bangladesh, ABM Khairul Haque, from his Dhanmondi residence in Dhaka. Confirming the arrest, Nasirul Islam, joint commissioner of Bangladesh police (intelligence branch), stated that three cases filed against Haque had led to his arrest.

Media reports said Muzahidul Islam Shaheen, a Supreme Court lawyer, had filed a case against Khairul Haque, accusing him of corruption and manipulating court decisions. Subsequently, Abdul Bari Bhuiyan, a leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party in Narayanganj, filed another case against Haque. In this case, Bhuiyan complained that in 2011, the then Chief Justice Khairul Haque had abolished the caretaker government system by quashing the 13th amendment to the constitution.

It is noteworthy that Khairul Haque served as the 19th Chief Justice of Bangladesh from October 1, 2010, to May 17, 2011. In one of his rulings, Haque had on May 10, 2011, declared the 13th amendment to the constitution as 'unconstitutional'. Significantly, the caretaker government of Bangladesh has been arresting a large number of political

rivals. These include leaders, economic experts, election commission officials, bureaucrats and high-ranking police officers. They are said to be linked to the deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. According to media reports, Bangladesh's Yunus government has so far arrested more than 500 political opponents on various charges.

Inquilab (July 20) states that prominent student leader Nahid Islam, who overthrew the Sheikh Hasina government, has threatened that if the current government does not change its stance, a mass movement would be launched against it. He said: "We promised the people that we would change the old system but the current government is not fulfilling this promise. Dynastic leaders, mafia and their patrons have united and forgotten the promises made to the people."

Roznama Sahara (July 18) states that the supporters of deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Bangladesh have started nationwide protests. Their supporters launched a march from Gopalganj, the ancestral town of Hasina and a stronghold of her party, the Awami League.

Fierce clashes reportedly broke out between Hasina's supporters and those of

the current government. During these clashes, 20 vehicles were set on fire. To save their lives, the protesters sought refuge in the police headquarters. It is reported that soldiers indiscriminately fired upon Sheikh Hasina's supporters. At least 14 people are confirmed to have died in this firing.

Bangladesh's chief adviser Mohammad Yunus stated in a statement that the attacks on student leaders by supporters of deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Gopalganj would not be tolerated, and stringent action would be taken against those responsible for this attack.

Student leader Nahid Islam threatened the government that if those responsible for the Gopalganj violence are not arrested, a non-cooperation movement will be launched nationwide. Gopalganj is considered a stronghold of the Awami League. The graves of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and 14 members of his family are located there. These individuals were killed by some Bangladeshi soldiers in 1975.

Urdu Times (July 21) reports that discussions about the general elections have begun in Bangladesh, and various political parties have become active. Recently, Jamaat-e-Islami has started a series of public meetings in the country. This began with a massive public meeting at Suhrawardy Udyan in Dhaka. There, the leader Shafiqur Rahman, said that Jamaat-e-Islami was committed to bringing to



power a government that runs on the principles of Islam and the Quran.

Shafiqur Rahman said that the old secular and fascist government had been eliminated. "Our struggle will continue until an Islamic rule is established in this country." He alleged that at the behest of foreign powers, Sheikh Hasina's government launched a well-planned campaign to eliminate the Jamaat-e-Islami and Islam.

Therefore, Jamaat-e-Islami had been banned and thousands of its workers had been hanged. He appealed to the Yunus government to withdraw the false cases filed by Sheikh Hasina's government against the leaders and workers of Jamaat-e-Islami and release all the workers imprisoned in jails, "so that we can participate in the elections". Rahman said that if their government comes to power, they would form a government based on Islam and the Quran, and the country's administration would be run under shariah law. "We will not tolerate corruption and secularism at any cost."

Conspiracy to establish Islamic Caliphate in Uzbekistan

Chattan (July 23) reports that Uzbekistan's National Security Service claimed that the Islamic terrorist organisation, ISIS, was plotting to overthrow the country's current government through violence. Forty people associated with this organisation have been taken into custody. The leadership of ISIS Khorasan province was in the hands of a

19-year-old woman. She was trained at an Islamic centre in Istanbul, Turkey, in Islamic education to overthrow the Uzbekistan government.

A press release issued by the National Security Service stated that those arrested were engaged in spreading jihadist propaganda in cyberspace. These included youth, men and women. This group was



in the house of a 'kafir'. She then left her ancestral home. This young woman formed a secret cell in the city of Namangan, Uzbekistan. More than 40 people were involved in this cell. She created more than 120 Telegram channels and groups, in which Islamic terrorism and jihadist material, along with audio and video files, were broadcast.

disseminating material on social media that incited the public to wage an armed struggle against the Uzbekistan government. This organisation also received large quantities of weapons from foreign sources.

According to the government statement, this terrorist group was supported by the cooperation of Uzbekistan's intelligence agency and various organisations of the ministry of internal affairs. A large amount of literature was seized from the possession of those arrested, which incited the Uzbek people to establish an Islamic caliphate. The government has not announced the name of the leader of this organisation. However, a picture of the woman has been published, in which her face is hidden.

The National Security Service claimed that this girl is originally from Uzbekistan. She went to Turkey in 2022. She received training in Islam and guerrilla warfare at a centre operated by ISIS. Thereafter, she returned. When her father reportedly tried to prevent her from participating in ISIS activities, she called her father 'kafir' (infidel) and 'enemy of Islam' and said that she did not want to live

Secret training centres were also organised by ISIS, where young people were invited to 'jihad' (holy war) and 'shahadat' (martyrdom). In these training camps, youths were urged to establish a government in Uzbekistan based on Shariah and Islam and were incited to adopt a violent path against the current Uzbek government's political, social, and religious policies. The intelligence department raided more than 70 locations in the country and 37 mobile phones, 51 religious books, 40 DVDs, four flash drives, one laptop and one tablet were seized. Material related to Islamic Caliphate were seized from them.

Some people associated with this terrorist organisation were also reportedly running a private university. The reach of this university was also in various educational institutions of the country. It was being used for the promotion and spread of Islamic terrorism. According to government information, a dozen clerics have also been arrested. These clerics were illegally teaching Islamic terrorism to children. It has been claimed that more than 100 government madrasas in the country had become strongholds of these terrorists.

BLA's operations against Pakistani soldiers

Hindustan (July 27) reports that the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) has claimed to have killed more than 70 soldiers in the past week. Among the dead are also some senior military officers. BLA spokesperson Jiyand Baloch claimed that BLA fighters attacked Pakistani military

checkpoints in Mastung, Kalat, Jamuran, Buleda, and Quetta.

Meanwhile, Pakistani army camps in Nushki, Dalbandin, and Panjgur have also been attacked. The biggest attack was carried out on July 22 in the Kohak area of Kalat. In this attack, three vehicles of the

Pakistani army were targeted. Thirteen soldiers were killed in this attack.

BLA fighters targeted a military checkpoint in Mastung with an IED. Six Pakistani soldiers were killed in this blast. Another checkpoint in the same area was also attacked, in which two Pakistani soldiers were killed and four were injured. BLA fighters also killed an informer named Jamaluddin. Jamaluddin used to provide information to the Pakistani army about the activities of Baloch fighters.

According to **Urdu Times** (July 18), BLA attacked a bus carrying Pakistani soldiers from Karachi to Quetta. In this attack, 29 Pakistani soldiers were killed. Meanwhile, the Baloch Liberation Front also attacked Pakistani army checkpoints in Kalat and Jhao. It was claimed that 10 people were killed in these attacks. The Pakistani army confirmed these attacks in a



press release and stated that these attacks took place on July 16.

Chattan (July 26) reports that Pakistan's minister of state for interior, Talal Chaudhry, claimed that more than 150 social media accounts had been shut down on charges of promoting terrorism. He claimed that these were being used to promote terrorism in Balochistan. He alleged that terrorists were using cyber technology at the behest of foreigners.

20 women arrested for not wearing burqa in Afghanistan



Roznama Sahara (July 22) reports that police have arrested more than 20 women in Afghanistan's capital Kabul on charges of not wearing a burqa or hijab. A spokesperson for the Afghan government confirmed these arrests, stating that these women were violating shariah laws, and thus were arrested. This campaign is currently limited to Kabul and will soon be expanded to other areas of Afghanistan. According to media, the men who arrested

these women assaulted them. The women are accused of violating the Islamic dress code. Last week, more than 150 such women who were not wearing burqa or hijab were arrested from various markets and parks in central Kabul.

Urdu Times (July 20) states that the Taliban government, for the first time, has sentenced a person to public hanging on charges of insulting Prophet Muhammad. This incident has been reported from Paktika province of Afghanistan. A spokesperson for the Taliban government has confirmed that a person named Abdul Aleem Khamoosh was found guilty of insulting Prophet of Islam.

This accused was a teacher in a school, who has confessed to his crime and hence he was been publicly hanged. Government spokesperson Saifullah Islam

Khaibar said in his social media post that the Taliban government considers insulting religious values, weakening the spiritual unity of the Islamic community, and violating shariah as a serious crime. The

Taliban government had previously arrested this teacher on charges of opposing government policies and sentenced him to two years in prison, but later he was accused of insulting Islam and the Prophet.

UK government's plan to rehabilitate Afghans cancelled

Roznama Sahara (July 17) has reported that the British government has decided to end the plan to give asylum to 20,000 Afghan citizens in their country. It is noteworthy that after the Taliban took control of Afghanistan, the British Conservative government had decided to give asylum to Afghan citizens who provided secret information to British intelligence agencies and the army.

Under this scheme, a list of 20,000 such Afghan citizens was prepared, who were decided to be secretly brought to Britain from Afghanistan. The then government feared that the Taliban government would not tolerate these

British informers and would collectively put them to death.

Under this secret plan, the British government launched a campaign to provide refuge in Britain to spies and their families. Under this plan, seven thousand people were secretly brought to Britain from Afghanistan. During this period, the Conservative Party faced defeat in the general election held in Britain. Now, the ruling Labour Party in Britain has decided to cancel this scheme. The government has decided that only those Afghan citizens who have already reached Britain under this scheme will be granted citizenship of the country.

Islamic terrorists attack church in Congo

Urdu Times (July 28) reports on how Islamic terrorists have launched a fierce campaign against Christians in eastern Congo. In this connection, Islamic terrorists attacked a Catholic church and shot dead 21 people who were praying there. This attack was carried out by armed assailants of the Allied Democratic Force (ADF). This organisation is said to be linked to the Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS. These terrorists also attacked houses and looted hundreds of houses and shops before setting them on fire. Many people were burnt alive in this attack. Most of the dead included children and women.

The Congolese army spokesperson confirmed that in the attack on the church, at least 21 people were killed and about 50 injured, most of whom are said to be in critical condition. The spokesperson said that the attackers were equipped with



modern weapons and their number was about 40. They surrounded the church as soon as they arrived and started firing indiscriminately at the worshippers. The military spokesperson confirmed that the ADF is an Islamic organisation struggling for the establishment of Islamic rule in Congo. It recently announced the establishment of the Islamic State of Central Africa. The spokesperson said that for the past decade, there has been an armed conflict between Christians and Muslims in the region. It is noteworthy that Congo is a Christian country.

West Asia

Four nations announce recognition to Palestine



Roznama Sahara (August 1) states that after Britain, France and Canada, Malta has also announced its recognition to Palestine as a nation. Malta's Prime Minister Robert Abela, a member of the European Union, announced the recognition of Palestine as a nation at the United Nations General Assembly. On the other hand, Israel has condemned the announcement of recognition of Palestine by Canada, Britain and France, stating that it is a reward for the Palestinian terrorist organisation Hamas. This declaration by these countries will severely setback the ceasefire and hostage return plan.

Commenting on the recognition of Palestine by European countries, a spokesperson for US President Donald Trump said that President Trump considers it a reward for Hamas. These European countries should not take such a step. It is noteworthy that French President Emmanuel Macron has announced that France would recognise the Palestinian state in September.

Along with this, the demand for granting membership to Palestine in the United Nations has also gained momentum.

Significantly, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer had said that if Israel does not change the current situation in Gaza,

Britain would recognise Palestine as an independent state in the United Nations General Assembly. Canada has also announced its recognition of an independent Palestinian state.

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney has said that they want to recognise Palestine as a state. Meanwhile, Singapore has said that if recognising a Palestinian state increases the possibility of peace being restored in West Asia, then Singapore can also recognise Palestine.

It is notable that the Palestinian Authority has been granted non-member observer status in the United Nations. In November, 2012, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution granting Palestine non-member observer state status.

A total of 138 countries voted in favour of this proposal, while nine votes were cast against it. Additionally, 41 countries did not participate in the voting. In 2024, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution. This resolution stated that Palestine is eligible to gain membership in the United Nations.

According to the rules, if a country wishes to become a member of the United Nations, it must first submit an application to the secretary-general of the United

Nations. A committee then reviews this application. If at least nine countries support this application and no permanent member country of the United Nations opposes it, then this matter goes to the United Nations General Assembly. If it receives the support of two-thirds of the members there, it gains membership in the United Nations. Currently, the United States, Russia, China, France, and Britain are permanent members of the United Nations.

Siasat (July 26) reports that Saudi Arabia stated that it welcomed France's recognition of Palestine and hoped that other countries would also follow suit. Hussein Al-Sheikh, vice-president of the Palestinian Authority, also welcomed French President Macron's announcement. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu condemned this decision. He stated that "We will not accept this at any cost."

Aurangabad Times (July 31) states that India has also indirectly supported the recognition of the Palestinian state.

Kaumi Tazeem (July 30) states that British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said that recognising a Palestinian state was not a reward for Hamas, but rather the aim of this decision is to improve the situation in Gaza. He said: "Hamas is a dangerous terrorist organisation. But this decision of ours is to help the Palestinian people and the starving children in Gaza. We want to

advise the Israeli government not to create any obstacles in delivering relief material to the Palestinian people.

Urdu Times (July 30) reports that Congress leader Sonia Gandhi has said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence against Israeli oppression in Gaza is shameful. "Now the time has come for India to openly help the Palestinian people and recognise Palestine."

Urdu Times (August 1) reports that India has clarified its stand on the ongoing war in Gaza and the Israel-Palestine dispute. Addressing a conference organised in this regard, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, P Harish, said that to stop the ongoing conflict in this region, the recognition of two states should be considered and efforts should be made to resolve this dispute at the diplomatic level. Harish said that in 1988, India was among the first countries to recognise Palestine.

Urdu Times (July 27) has welcomed France's announcement of recognising Palestine in its editorial. The newspaper said that this is a testing time for French President Macron, as a section of France has become active against his decision. Macron's announcement is a historic moment. If Europe revokes the right to freedom for Palestine, it would have serious global consequences. France should implement this declaration.

Terrorist attack on court in Iran

Urdu Times (July 27) reports that armed terrorists attacked a court in Zahedan, southeastern Iran. At least nine persons were killed and nearly 30 people were injured in this attack. According to **Al Arabiya**, armed terrorists entered the judges' chambers and resorted to indiscriminate firing. Three terrorists are also claimed to have been killed in the army's retaliatory action. Sistan-Baluchestan deputy police commander Ali Reza Daliri stated that the terrorists entered the Zahedan court disguised as ordinary citizens and fired indiscriminately. Daliri

said that two terrorists were shot when they were trying to escape from the court premises. Meanwhile, the third terrorist was killed in a suicide attack. Pasdaran-e-Inqilab (IRGC) has also confirmed the attack and stated the number of dead to be nine.

After this attack, a state of emergency has been declared in the entire province. The injured have been admitted to hospitals. Iranian soldiers have deployed their tanks around the court premises. According to Iran news agency, Mehr, the Sunni Islamic terrorist organisation Jaish



al-Adl has claimed responsibility for the Zahedan attack.

Terrorists also attacked an IRGC military outpost located in the city of Sardasht in Iran's northwestern province of Azerbaijan. In this attack, three Iranian soldiers were killed and five were injured. IRGC spokesman Colonel Shakir has expressed doubt that Kurdish terrorists might also be involved in this attack. Kurdish terrorists had previously carried out attacks on Iranian military outposts in this region. These attacks have raised questions about Iran's internal security. Iranian security agencies have claimed that a campaign has been launched across the country against Mossad agents. More than 700 people have been arrested in this connection. These include Baloch, Afghan, Kurd and some foreign nationals. Zahedan and Sardasht are adjacent to the Pakistani province of Balochistan, and Baloch fighters are active in these areas.

Iran has been accusing Pakistan that the hideouts of terrorists who attack Iran are located in the border areas of Pakistan.

Recently, the Pakistani government claimed that the hideouts of separatist Baloch organisations are present in Iran's Makran division. Earlier, the armies of Iran and Pakistan had carried out missile and air strikes across each other's borders in the name of attacking terrorist hideouts.

Iran's late foreign minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian had alleged that the Sunni terrorist organisation Jaish al-Adl had established its bases in the Pakistani province of Balochistan. From there, they attack Iran. People related to the Baloch tribe are settled in the border areas of Iran and Pakistan, and they have been independent for several decades.

They have been engaged in armed struggle for the creation of Balochistan. Senior Pakistani journalist Anwer Sajidi has claimed that Jaish al-Adl has been active since 1970. Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi of Iran had requested the Pakistani government in 1971 for the elimination of this terrorist organisation.

There is a border of more than 900 kilometres between Pakistan and Iran. Baloch people live in large numbers in Sistan-Baluchestan, Saravan and Chabahar areas of Iran. Pakistan's Chagai, Washuk, Panjgur, Kech, and Gwadar districts are adjacent to the Iranian border. The hideouts of Jaish al-Adl are said to be in these very areas. Jaish al-Adl is an organisation of Sunni Muslims. It is active against the Shia government of Iran.

Syrian government, rebels declare ceasefire

Due to the efforts of the US, a ceasefire agreement has been reached among the Syrian government, Bedouin tribes, and Druze fighters. For the past two weeks, a conflict had been ongoing between the Bedouin tribes and Druze fighters. According to media reports, this was actually a Shia-Sunni conflict. In this

conflict, at least 400 people were killed and nearly 300 were injured.

Inquilab (July 18) reports that US Secretary of State Marco Rubio had announced that both sides in Syria have agreed for a ceasefire. According to news agency Reuters, this conflict began when Sunni Bedouin tribes abducted a Druze



merchant. This merchant was on his way to Damascus, the capital of Syria.

The Druze fighters are considered supporters of the ousted Shia president Bashar al-Assad. Earlier, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had announced that they would protect the Druze minority. The Druze belong to the Shia sect, while the Bedouin are associated with the Sunni sect.

On Sunday, clashes between Bedouin tribes and Druze fighters began in the Al-Maqwas area of Suweida city. The Druze fighters had reportedly captured this Bedouin-majority area. A spokesperson for the Syrian interior ministry had stated that the war situation was serious. Earlier in May, nearly 150 people were killed in clashes between Shia fighters and Sunni government soldiers in Damascus and Suweida.

Israel reportedly attacked the Syrian army to protect the Druze fighters. Israel claimed that Syria's new president, Ahmed al-Shara, was a terrorist and that he would

not allow the Syrian army to establish fronts near the Israeli border. A US spokesperson claimed that violence has recently erupted in the region due to Israel's misunderstanding. Israel felt that the Syrian army was building fronts near its border. The spokesperson added that the US was trying to resolve the tension between Syria and Israel. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that the Golan Heights would be

maintained as a demilitarised zone and no army would be allowed to occupy it. If the Syrian government occupies this area, we would not accept it at all.

Syrian President Ahmed al-Shara has alleged that Israel was trying to create differences among various sections of Syrian citizens and wants to break Syria's national unity. He said: "Druze are an integral part of Syria and it is our duty to protect their interests. We will not allow any foreign power to take undue advantage of our internal problems."

Inquilab (July 27) reports that Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan has expressed concern over the increasing tension in Syria. He said that Turkey had to intervene in this matter seeing the threat to Syria's unity and regional integrity. Turkey's goal is to rebuild Syria and make it economically self-sufficient. He urged Bedouin tribes and Druze fighters not to jeopardise Syria's unity under the guise of protecting racism or religious identity.

Saudi Arabia makes investments in Syria

Qaumi Bharat (July 26) has reported that the Saudi government has signed various agreements related to a capital investment of US dollar 6.4 billion to strengthen Syria's economy. Earlier, Saudi Arabia and Qatar had repaid Syria's outstanding debt of US dollar 15 million to the World Bank. Saudi Arabia's investment minister Khalid

Al-Falih said that so far 47 agreements have been signed in this regard, valued at 24 billion Saudi riyals (approximately US dollar 6.4 billion). Under these agreements, the communication system in Syria is to be modernised at US dollar 1.07 billion. In addition, agreements worth \$2.93 billion for real estate and infrastructure projects

have also been announced. He expressed hope that Saudi Arabian businessmen would also be interested in investing capital in Syria.

Siasat (July 25) states that Khalid Al-Falih said in an interview with *Al Arabiya* that Saudi Arabia was gambling on the future of Syria by investing capital. Four large cement manufacturing plants are being set up in Syria immediately. These include a huge white cement plant near Damascus. He said that Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is taking special



interest in the reconstruction of Syria. A delegation of Saudi economic experts will soon visit Damascus to consider further possibilities of capital investments in Syria.

Plot to assassinate Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu



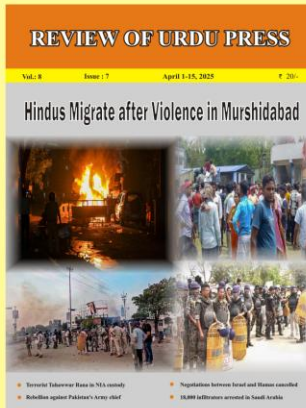
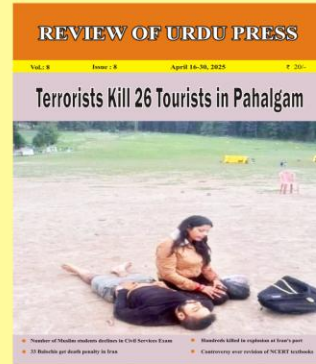
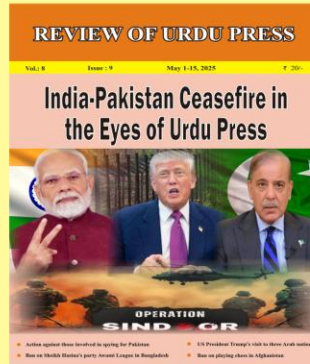
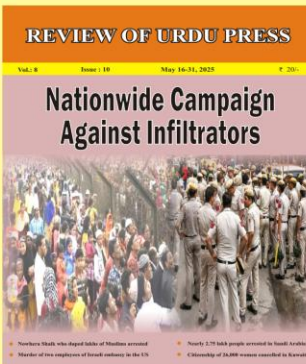
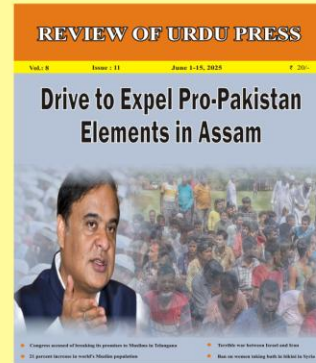
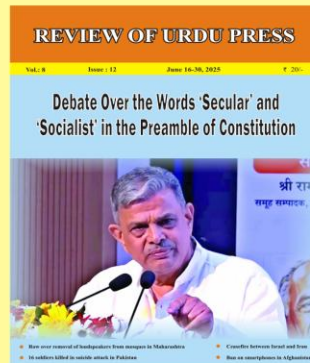
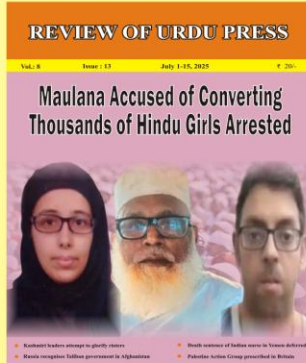
Urdu Times (July 25) reports that the Israeli security agency, Shin Bet, has arrested a 70-year-old woman on charges of planning to assassinate Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. According to Israeli security agencies, this woman had planned to assassinate Benjamin Netanyahu by carrying out a suicide attack.

A chargesheet has been filed against this woman on charges of attempted murder and involvement in terrorist activities. According to a government report, this woman was also taken into custody two weeks earlier but was released with certain conditions. These conditions included prohibiting her from entering any government institutions and from approaching Prime Minister Netanyahu. According to police sources, this woman is a well-known anti-government protester.

On the other hand, Benjamin Netanyahu's security arrangements are being reviewed, and anyone's access to him is being restricted. Permission is not being granted. The police claim that this woman had planned to assassinate Netanyahu using an improvised explosive device (IED). The public prosecutor claims that this woman is being interrogated and some people

connected to her gang have been detained and are being questioned at unknown locations.

Last year, two unsuccessful attempts were made to assassinate Netanyahu. The attackers fired two missiles at Netanyahu's residence, which fell in his house's courtyard. At the time of the attack, neither Netanyahu nor any member of his family was present at home. Earlier, Hezbollah had carried out a suicide attack on Netanyahu's house but security forces killed the attacker on the spot. Government sources have confirmed that Hamas attempted twice to assassinate Netanyahu last week. The Israeli media has claimed that this woman is linked to Iran's intelligence agency. Security agencies are engaged in locating Iranian agents in Israel.



॥ इंदीया नीति प्रतिष्ठान ॥

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