

# REVIEW OF URDU PRESS

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## 12 People including Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui Get Life-Term for Illegal Conversions



- NRC receipt mandatory for Aadhaar in Assam
- Houthis launch attack on Israel
- Thousands of Rohingya Muslims flee Myanmar
- Radicals register huge victory in parliamentary elections in Jordan

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## Summary

Despite the vigilance of the Central government, a campaign to convert Bharat from a democratic nation to an Islamic country has been going on at a rapid pace for the past several years. The surprising thing is that Muslim and Christian organisations are receiving huge money from foreign sources for religious conversions of Hindus. In this connection, a special court in Lucknow has awarded life-term in jail to 12 people including Islamic preacher Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui and Umar Gautam for undertaking religious conversions in an illegal manner and conspiring to establish Shariah rule after destroying the democratic structure of the country. Also, four others have been sentenced to 10 years in jail. Apart from this, a fine was also imposed on them. It is said that the Phulat region in Muzaffarnagar district in Uttar Pradesh has been a centre for Wahabis right from the beginning. With the help of foreign money, many organizations here are running a campaign to convert Hindus to Islam. Ignoring the rapid pace at which conversions are taking place in border areas would be dangerous for the future of the country.

It is a well-known fact that infiltration has been taking place in the North-East for several decades. Due to this, the original residents of these places are on the verge of becoming minorities and the infiltrators are making efforts to seize power. This is the reason why the number of infiltrators in Assam has reached 40 percent in several places. The sad thing is that the previous governments were indifferent to stopping this infiltration. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has realised this threat which is looming over national security and the democracy. He has also started taking some credible efforts to stop this threat. Himanta Biswa Sarma has announced that now, in order to get an Aadhaar card, the applicant has to produce the application number of National Register of Citizens (NRC). The chief minister's argument is that this will stop illegal infiltrators from entering the state. The Muslim organisations are opposing this decision of the Assam government because their aim is to end democracy and establish a rule based on Shariah in the country. This is the reason why Muslim leaders are saying time and again that the Muslims should take their problems to the Shariah courts instead of the judicial courts in the country. The question that arises here is that why do these people want to set up a parallel judicial system in the country.

The relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan are deteriorating day by day. Recently, several bloody clashes took place between the soldiers of these two countries. Soldiers belonging to both sides were killed in these clashes. A few days ago, eight Afghan soldiers were killed in clashes that took place with Pakistani soldiers on the borders of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Apart from this, the series of allegations and counter-allegations against each other are also continuing.

It would not be in India's interest to ignore the pace at which China's dominance is increasing in the Muslim world. Bharat will have to keep a close eye on the recent visit of Chinese Prime Minister Li Qiang to Saudi Arabia. It is well known that China and Pakistan are jointly trying to encircle India. China has been rapidly implementing its old anti-India 'string of pearls' policy.

## Twelve people including Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui get life-term in illegal conversion case



**Avadhnama** (September 12) states that a special court in Lucknow has awarded life-term in jail to 12 people including Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui and Maulana Umar Gautam in a case of illegal conversions. Whereas, four other persons involved in this case have been awarded 10 years in jail each and a fine of Rs 2 lakh each. Two days ago, the special court had found all the accused guilty. Judge of NIA-ATS court Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi has found these accused guilty under sections 417, 120B, 153A, 153B, 295A, 121A, 123 of Indian Penal Code and also under sections 3, 4 and 5 of Anti-Conversion Act.

The court sentenced to life-term Maulana Umar Gautam, Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui, Irfan Sheikh, Salahuddin Jainuddin Sheikh, Prasad Rameshwar Kamvare alias Adam, Bhupriya Bandho alias Arsalan Mustafa, Kaushar Alam, Faraz Babullah Shah, Dhiraj Govind Rao Jagtap, Sarfaraz Ali Zafari, Mufti Jahangir Alam Qasmi and Abdullah Umar. This apart, Mohammad Salim, Rahul Bhola, Mannu Yadav and Kunal Ashok Choudhary were awarded 10 years in jail. The Uttar Pradesh ATS had registered a case against these people in June 2021 under Anti-Conversion Act. Later, Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui was arrested from Meerut.

The ATS had described Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui, Umar Gautam and Mufti Jahangir Alam Qasmi as part of a gang involved in conversions across the country. The ATS said that Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui had illegally received Rs 5.1 crore from Bahrain and an amount of Rs 3 crore from other Gulf countries in order to convert innocent people by luring them.

The allegation of ATS is that this gang wanted to change the population ratio in the country through mass conversions and wanted to bring a Shariah-based government to power in the country by weakening the democratically elected government. This nationwide syndicate has been running a conversion drive based on the principles of multi-level marketing to convert weaker sections of the society in Uttar Pradesh and other states, especially women, minors, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and handicapped persons. These people are being converted by luring them with jobs, marriage and money.

According to government lawyer M K Singh, the accused were running a racket of illegal conversion by spreading religious passion, animosity and hatred under a conspiracy. They have their links abroad and were secretly getting huge money from there.



Director General of Police in Uttar Pradesh Prashant Kumar said that Umar Gautam was a Hindu earlier. After becoming a Muslim, he started running a conversion campaign across the country. He has been accused of converting more than 1,000 Hindus into Muslims and organising the marriage of Hindu girls with Muslims. This campaign was being run under the pretext of an organisation named Islamic Dawah Centre based in Jamia Nagar in Delhi.

**Urdu Times** (September 12) states that at the behest of the legal aid committee of Jamiat Ulema Maharashtra, nearly a dozen lawyers including Arif Ali, Furqan Pathan and Saif Ali fought the case on behalf of the accused. Arif Ali argued in the court that the prosecution could not produce any solid evidence in the court against the accused on the basis of which they could be found guilty. The government had presented 24 government employees as witnesses to testify against the accused. The lawyers of the accused said that there is a lack of coherence in the statements of the witnesses. As far as accused Irfan is concerned, his name is not mentioned in the FIR. He was arrested later. The lawyer also told the court that the son of government witness Lakshmi Gupta, Aditya Gupta, had embraced Islam in 2020. Since the anti-conversion law was formulated in Uttar Pradesh only in 2021, it was not made applicable in this case. This apart, under this law, only the victim and his or her family could file an FIR against the accused. Whereas in this case, ATS officer Vinod had filed a complaint, on the

basis of which a case has been registered against the accused.

**Sahafat** (September 14) reports that the chief of All India Muslim Majlis-e-Mushawarat, Dr Zafarul Islam Khan said that this was a very dangerous and bad use of the law and judiciary for the Hindutva agenda. The law under which the accused were given punishment is a violation of Article 25 and 28 of the Constitution. He said that the Constitution has given

every community to propagate their religion. Even if he had taken aid from abroad for the propagation of Islam, there is nothing wrong with it, because Hindus, Christians and Buddhists also do get such kind of helps. He said that this law of Uttar Pradesh is anti-Constitutional and its aim is to harass the Muslims. He expressed hope that the higher courts will cancel this verdict.

**Hamara Samaj** (September 13) states that the Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami Syed Sadatullah Hussaini has expressed concern over the punishment awarded to Kaleem Siddiqui and his colleagues by the court and said that the Constitution has given the right to every individual to adopt a religion of his or her choice and to propagate the same. No government can deprive him of this right. He said that the law under which he was given punishment is against the Constitution.

**Taasir** (September 13) has said in its editorial that a school teacher, Kalpana Singh, at Fatehpur in Uttar Pradesh, had filed an FIR against Umar Gautam on charges of converting students in an illegal manner. Following this, people were arrested in a selective manner from across the country. Maulana Kaleem has been accused of taking money from abroad for religious conversions. In the same way, Umar Gautam and Mufti Jahangir Alam Qasmi have been accused of converting thousands of Hindus into Muslims in an illegal manner. It is worth mentioning that a Shah Waliullah Trust is being run at the behest of Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui in

Phulat village in Muzaffarnagar. This apart, he is also the president of Global Peace Foundation. Maulana Siddiqui was not the kind of person earlier, going by the charges under which he has been arrested. Earlier also several Islamic scholars had been made the victims of fake charges. The newspaper said that the law under which the Maulana has been given punishment is against the Constitution of the country. We are hopeful that Maulana Siddiqui and his colleagues will get justice from the high court.

**Hamara Samaj** (September 13) in its editorial said that the court which had found Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui guilty of illegal conversions should also know that across the world, most of the atrocities against those who raise their voice for human rights are committed in the courts. In the constitution, all religions have the freedom to practice their faith and propagate their religion. This decision of the court in itself is anti-Constitutional.

If the government has the arrogance that by getting such decisions taken through the courts, it can defeat that group of Indians who had even sacrificed their heads and beards to end the atrocities of the British, then they are wrong. As far as the issue of Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui is concerned, he is the successor of those Ulema of ours who, by laying down their lives from Delhi to Lahore in 1857, had reminded the British that the freedom lovers of this country never care about their lives.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (September 11) in its editorial said we are not surprised by this verdict. The manner in which the government introduced about the crime of Maulana Siddiqui and his colleagues in the court, it was clear that Maulana was blamed as if he is converting all the Hindus in the country into Muslims and no leniency should be shown to him at all. The truth is that ever since the Yogi Adityanath government was formed in Uttar Pradesh, since then this *raga* started being sung that the Muslim Ulema have been running a campaign to convert Hindus into Muslims

either through allurements or through force. If any Muslim becomes Hindu, then no action is taken against those who made him Hindu. During the arrest of Maulana, this question was raised in several quarters that this law has been formulated to create fear among Muslims and also Muslims and their leaders are being trapped in fake cases. Its purpose is also to create fear among ordinary Muslims by thinking that if Yogi government can send Muslims like Azam Khan and Kaleem Siddiqui to jail, then what will be the fate of an ordinary Muslim? The Maulana was also accused of collecting funds from abroad. Such allegations have been made in the past as well, but they have fallen flat on their face in court. This decision was by a lower court. The higher courts are still there. Muslims need to approach the high court and the Supreme Court with full strength so that the truth is revealed.

**Urdu Times** (September 15) said that the impartiality of Indian judicial system is in danger. The phase that the judiciary is going through now has never been experienced in the past 75 years. Commenting on the verdict of the court, Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui's lawyer Mufti Osama Nadvi said that the whole case is a lie and a conspiracy. The first issue is that the law on conversion itself is wrong. There is no such democracy in the world where life-term is awarded as punishment for the religious conversion of an individual. Now the question is also that if a person changes his religion for money, then it is his personal issue. The government interfering in this issue or making a law in this connection is a violation of his privacy. The biggest game about this law is that till now only Muslims and Christians have been arrested under this law. It was never used against Hindus or their organisations, who openly convert non-Hindus into Hindus.

Hundreds of Muslim girls are being converted to Hinduism under the saffron trap by falling into the trap of love, but till now no action has been taken in such cases. In this law, there is a provision that only

the victim or her relatives can file a complaint, but in this case the complainant was a government agency. This agency was constituted for the elimination of terrorism. Can conversion be construed as terrorism?

NIA had also alleged that the accused had been linked to Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI, but no evidence or phone call was presented in the court in this connection. The Brahmin judge saheb 'Tripathi ji' of the NIA-ATS court has accepted the allegations of NIA as gospel truth and did not care to see whether any evidence is produced in the court or not to prove the allegations. Is propagation of Islam the most dangerous thing in this country?

**Aurangabad Times** (September 15) in its editorial, while criticising the decision of the court, said that the Maulana and his colleagues were given punishment for a crime which they never committed. Such decisions shake the public's trust in the courts and the justice system of the country. The newspaper urged Muslims that they appeal in the high court against this verdict so that the misuse of the judiciary is stopped.

**Hindustan** (September 12) has given the headline of its editorial as "Punishment of Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui, what kind of court and where is the justice?" It has been said in the editorial that world-renowned Islamic preacher Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui was given punishment for a crime, the right for which



had been given to him by the Indian Constitution. Despite this, if any court gives punishment to some on the issue of religious conversion, then the justice and judiciary cannot be trusted. Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui was arrested by the ATS in 2021. Following this, several people were taken into custody on fake charges. They were trapped in all kinds of legal complications. They were accused of religious conversion using force, threat and allurements and were also accused of money laundering. After being accused of money laundering, his case was handed over to NIA as well, apart from ATS. Till today, whichever Muslim was caught in fake charges and against whom the investigating agencies had conducted partisan investigation, they were all released by the high court. Now the situation in the country is very much worrying. Even investigating agencies and courts are at the receiving end of religious discrimination. The surprising thing is that the Muslim community is on a Kumbhakarn-like sleep till now. The situation demands that the Muslims need to adopt a solid and effective strategy in view of the seriousness of the situation so that their separate identity and Islam are saved.

## NRC receipt mandatory for Aadhaar in Assam

**Roznama Sahara** (September 8) states that all new applicants for Aadhaar card in Assam will have to produce the receipt number of National Register of Citizens (NRC) application. This was announced by Chief Minister of Assam Himanta

Biswa Sarma. He claimed that this decision of the state government would help stop illegal infiltration in the state. This law will be applicable from October. The chief minister said that in Dhubri district in Assam, more number of Aadhaar cards



Saath, Sabka Vikas' remains silent on this issue.

**Hindustan** (September 5) has expressed concern over the implementation of NRC in Assam. The newspaper said that this time Assam is the new laboratory for Hindutva. The anti-Muslim government here has been targeting Muslims on one pretext or the other. The Assam government had sent 28 Muslims to detention camps while implementing the NRC.

were issued than the real population there. This step has been taken in order to stop issuing of Aadhaar cards to suspicious people.

From January 2024 till now, 54 illegal infiltrators have been caught in the country. Among them 45 people have been sent back to their country. The rest of them are in detention camps. Chief Minister Sarma said the police and Border Security Force have been given directions to take stringent steps to stop illegal infiltration on international border. In view of this, extra forces have been deployed in districts near the border. He claimed that there has been a consistent increase in the number of infiltrators crossing the border. From 1971 till 2014, more than 48,000 foreigners were caught in the state. Among them, 27,000 were Muslims and nearly 20,000 were Hindus. The highest number of foreigners were caught from the Cachar region. Himanta Biswa Sarma said that nearly 72 percent population of the state speak Assamese. Whereas, 28 percent people speak Bengali. He said that it is very much necessary to stop foreign infiltration to ensure security of the state so that Assamese culture could be protected.

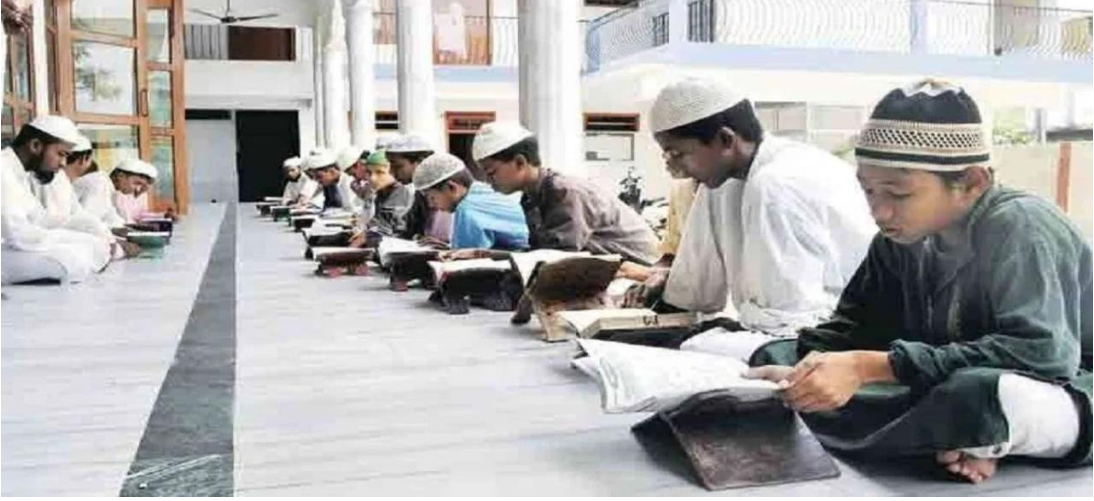
**Urdu Times** (September 1) has alleged that Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has openly adopted anti-Muslim policy and he has been continuously running a campaign against Muslims. The surprising thing is that the Modi government which claims of 'Sabka

These are those Muslims who were unable to prove their citizenship. They include both men and women. The foreigners' tribunal had described them as foreigners. Due to this, the future of thousands of Muslims staying in Assam is in trouble. Foreign infiltration is an old issue in Assam. This controversy has been going on for decades. The fact of the matter is that after Kashmir, Assam is the other state where the Muslim population is the highest. This population has become an eyesore for communal BJP and Sangh Parivar. Under the pretext of foreign infiltrators, preparations are being made to expel the Muslims who have been staying in Assam for years after declaring them as foreigners. The newspaper expressed satisfaction that Muslim organisations are fighting a legal battle in order to provide justice to Muslims.

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (September 6) has complained that in the states where BJP is in power, the lives of Muslims are being made difficult. Uniform Civil Code is being implemented to end Shariah and Islam. As far as anti-Muslim policies are concerned, there has been a competition between Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma that who will harass Muslims the maximum. This policy of the government is an open violation of secularism. The Assam government should try to ensure that every citizen staying in Assam should get justice. ■



## Recognition of 513 madrasas revoked in Uttar Pradesh



**Mumbai Urdu News** (September 11) states that in a meeting of Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Education Board, it has been decided that the recognition of 513 madrasas shall be cancelled. The recognition of these madrasas are being withdrawn under the law formulated in 2016. The board authorised registrar R P Singh to first review the matter and take further action as per the rules. Currently, there are 16,460 recognised madrasas in the state. Out of them, 560 madrasas get government grants. The madrasas whose recognition are being cancelled, they include 242 madrasas of Jhansi and 10 madrasas of Mau. This apart, the district minorities welfare officer of Ambedkar Nagar also recommended the withdrawal of recognition of 234 madrasas. The head of madrasa education board Dr Iftikhar Ahmed Javed said the number of students in many madrasas are rapidly going down and the employees are yet to get their dues for the past five years. Now the modernisation programme of madrasas have also been stopped.

**Hindustan** (September 7) reports that the Prayagraj Development Authority has issued a notice to madrasa managers for demolition of Jamia Habibia Madrasa in the district. Recently, the police had arrested the managers of this madrasa on charges of printing fake currency.

According to Prayagraj Development Authority, the managers of this madrasa had constructed a building comprising ground floor and first floor on a 3,000 sq metre area. No permission was taken from the Prayagraj Development Authority for the construction of this madrasa. The authority imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on the managers of this madrasa.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (September 7) reports that the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has claimed that a madrasa in Sagar district in Madhya Pradesh is violating the government rules. The managers of this madrasa had taken licence to run private school and now it is being run as an Islamic madrasa. On the directions of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, the campaign to inspect the madrasas in the state has been stepped up. These madrasas are religious institutions, where children are given just Islamic education. He said the managers of these madrasas have been giving a count of fake students in order to get government grants.

**Hindustan** (September 9) states that the Madhya Pradesh government has received a complaint that non-Muslim students are converted in Islamic madrasas. The renewal of the registration of 577 madrasas has been stopped in Madhya Pradesh. They have been accused of

creating a fake data of students in order to get government grants. In this connection, the state government has conducted an investigation into 1,677 madrasas. Recently, the chairperson of NCPCR Priyank Kanoongo's team had visited two

madrasas. There the names of 48 students turned out to be fake. The state's school education minister Rao Uday Pratap Singh said a high level investigation is being held into those madrasas which are getting grants from the government. ■

## Owaisi accused of illegally occupying Waqf properties worth Rs 3,000 crore



In an article written in **Taasir** (September 1), Matiur Rahman Aziz had alleged that the chief of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin (AIMIM), Asaduddin Owaisi, has illegally occupied Waqf properties worth more than Rs 3,000 crore. This is the reason why Owaisi is opposing the Waqf Amendment Act presented in the Parliament by the Union government. The newspaper alleged that Owaisi is using this Waqf property for his personal purposes. He is also openly violating the provision of the Waqf law, where it has been clearly mentioned that no individual can take Waqf property on lease for a period of more than 30 years. The newspaper alleged that Owaisi is not the lone person involved in this scam, instead the reputation of many Muslim leaders is tainted.

On the other hand, at the meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Committee constituted to look into the Waqf Amendment Bill, AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi alleged that the Archaeological Survey of India has illegally occupied 172

Waqf properties in Delhi alone. Muslims have approached the court against this occupation. The archaeology department has produced a list of 53 protected archaeological monuments before the committee, on which the different Waqf boards in the country are staking claim.

Chairman of Waqf Welfare Forum, Javed Ahmad has supported the Waqf Amendment Bill presented in the Parliament by the government. He said the current law has several loopholes which the powerful Muslim leaders are taking unfair advantage of. The biggest drawback of the present law is that though the Waqf Board is able to identify illegal occupation, but it has no legal right to remove such illegal occupation. He said that as per the tradition of Islam, wealthy Muslims had formed the Waqf over a period of time so that through them, institutions could be built for students for their studies and arrangement of money could be made for running mosques and other religious institutions. Javed Ahmad said that though the state



governments have the right to monitor the Waqf properties, but due to corruption, the employees of Waqf board make the original records of the Waqf properties disappear. Due to this, it is not possible to take legal action against illegal occupants to remove them from the property.

He said the Supreme Court in its decision in 1998 had clarified that if a property is declared as Waqf, then it will always be a Waqf property and it cannot be taken back. Neither an individual can use it for personal purposes. Despite this, the state governments have not properly implemented this decision of the Supreme Court. In 2013, the Waqf law was amended, but this amendment completely failed to digitise the Waqf properties and free them from illegal occupation.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (August 8) states that the Telangana government has started a campaign to demolish old buildings built by Muslims in the old city after declaring them as illegal. It is being

said that the Fatima Owaisi College of the Owaisi family is also on the target of the state government. Reacting to it, AIMIM leader and the brother of Asaduddin Owaisi, Akbaruddin Owaisi said that if you want, you can shoot me or use a sword on me, but do not stop the poor from studying. He said that our organisation had established 12 educational institutions to provide higher education to poor children. Now the state government is preparing to run bulldozer over them after declaring them as illegal. He said the properties of Muslims are selectively being targeted. The Telangana government is following the bulldozer policy of Yogi government.

In this connection, AIMIM has made a complaint to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the commissioner of Hyderabad Development Authority. The allegation of the government is that the Owaisi brothers constructed several illegal educational institutions after filling the lake with mud in Bandlaguda in Hyderabad. Akbaruddin Owaisi alleged that he has been made a victim of political conspiracy. He said those who harass him might be thinking that we will be weakened but it is their misunderstanding. He warned that if anybody tries to demolish his educational institutions, there will be serious consequences. ■

## Sangh's support to caste census is the target of Urdu Press

**Avadhnama** (September 8) states that for Sangh Parivar, supporting the caste census is no less than drinking a cup of poison. In order to save the government, it has to do everything, which are not said in the principles. One month ago, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had delivered a speech in Parliament. In that speech, he had mentioned about a Chakravyuh. He had said that the Chakravyuh was formed by Modi, Shah, Ambani, Adani, Ajit Doval and the Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Mohan Bhagwat.

The anger that RSS felt due to his statement is visible in an editorial published in the Sangh's magazine Panchajanya.

From reading this editorial, one could get an understanding that there is no difference between the Editor of Panchajanya Hitesh Shankar and BJP's street leader Anurag Thakur. When Anurag Thakur was fielded to reply to Rahul Gandhi, the creator of the dialogue 'goli maro saale ko,' while criticising Rahul Gandhi, said those who do not know about



own caste are talking about caste census. The BJP members made lots of applause on this statement of Anurag Thakur. However, the president of Samajwadi Party, Akhilesh Yadav, expressed his protest.

The Panchajanya, while advocating for casteism in its editorial, said the caste system of Hindu society was always on the target of the invaders. The Mughals on the strength of their swords and the missionaries in the name of service and reform, targeted it.

The newspaper said that if RSS has the courage, then it should clarify whether like Mughals and British, Bhimrao Ambedkar also betrayed his community and gave the slogan to end the caste system. He adopted Buddhism after abandoning the Hindu religion which was based on caste system. The editor of Panchajanya has forgotten that the Sarsanghchalak of Sangh has been openly supporting the caste system for the past several decades.

The newspaper said that after advocating caste system across the world, at a meeting of the RSS in Kerala, the Prachar Pramukh of Sangh, Sunil Ambedkar, has changed the colours of RSS and openly extended support to caste census. Along with this, he also said that since this issue was being raised by the

Opposition, it should not be used for political and electoral purposes. According to RSS, without the consent of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, no step should be taken in connection with creamy layer and sub-caste system. This is the biggest blackmailing of Sangh.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (September 4) states that just before the Assembly elections being held in four states, the RSS changed to fresh colours by supporting the caste census. Due to this announcement by the organisation, the political heat has increased in the country. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh asked whether the Sangh has got any power to ban caste census? If not so, who are they to give permission for it? When the Sangh says that the caste census should not be used for election campaign, are they some judge or some umpire? Why is the RSS maintaining silence on the demand for a Constitutional Amendment to remove the 50 percent limit for the reservation for Dalits, Adivasis and OBCs. Jairam Ramesh said that since the RSS has shown the green flag, will the non-biological prime minister hijack another guarantee of Congress and do a caste census?

**Akhbar-e-Mashriq** (September 8) said in its editorial that the issue of conducting a caste census has become a



topic of discussion across the country. The parties under the INDIA bloc led by Congress had announced during the Lok Sabha election campaign itself that if they come to power, they would conduct a caste census in the country. Some allies of BJP have also been supporting it. Especially, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's party Janata Dal (United) has also supported it. As far as BJP is concerned, the party has not taken a clear stand on this issue so far. Now the RSS, which is understood as the guru of BJP, has also supported the caste census and said that it has no objection on it. There should not be any inference from the RSS in the government decision, however, till now the government is working at the behest of the RSS.

The newspaper said that this statement of RSS is the biggest joke because the BJP, a product of the RSS, has been using every religious issue for the elections.

The intriguing thing is that the Sangh has never tried to stop it. When the election season arrives, controversial issues are blown up at the behest of the BJP. Enmity is created between the two biggest communities in the society. Political benefits are elicited by promoting hatred. Ram Mandir is the biggest example for this. Whether the agitation for Ram Mandir, or the court verdict on it or even its construction, the BJP had taken political benefits out of every issue. Now Uniform Civil Code is being raked up. In some states, it is not only implemented, but

resolutions are also passed in the Assembly in support of it for the polarisation of majority community. RSS is considered as the mother organisation of BJP. The intriguing thing is that the RSS is now giving advice to all political parties that they should not take political advantage of this issue. They should first give this advice to the BJP that they stop political exploitation of religious issues. The caste census has become such an issue for BJP and RSS that it has become impossible to escape from it.

**Sahafat** (September 7) has expressed the opinion that it is clear from the way RSS has suddenly changed its policy regarding caste census, it is clear that the Sangh has taken such a decision in view of the increasing protests from the NDA allies and a possible defeat of the BJP in the forthcoming Assembly elections in states. It is being said that from the survey being conducted by the RSS before the Assembly elections in four states, it is indicated that if caste census is not supported, then the BJP will be wiped out in the forthcoming elections. The intriguing thing is that at one level the Sangh has been claiming that the political parties should not take political benefits out of it. In such case, why the RSS had to change its stand just before the Assembly elections? Is it not a fact that the Sangh is traditionally a flag-bearer of manuvadi ideology? Even though it has not been publically announced? What has to be seen now is how beneficial will this new policy of the Sangh to be for BJP?

## Thousands of Rohingyas flee Myanmar



**Inquilab** (September 6) reports that the Myanmar Army has launched an extensive military campaign against Rohingya Muslims. The goal of this campaign is to crush the efforts of Rohingya Muslims to establish an independent Islamic rule in Rakhine province in Myanmar. Due to this campaign, nearly 10,000 Rohingya Muslims had to escape to Bangladesh to save their lives. According to British news agency Reuters, the ruling military in Myanmar and the Buddhist-majority Arakan Army have unleashed a campaign to crush the Islamic rebels. Recently, largescale violence took place in Myanmar in which hundreds of people were killed. The Myanmar Army used war planes also for this attack.

The incharge of refugee department in Bangladesh, Mohammad Shamsud Douza, said that at least 10,000 Rohingya Muslims have entered the country in the past two months. He said that Bangladesh is already facing a financial crisis due to Rohingya Muslims. Today we are not in a position to give refuge to any Rohingya Muslim in our country. Recently, the Bangladesh cabinet held a discussion on this issue during an emergency meeting. The government said that in view of the financial situation in the country, we will not be able to give shelter to more refugees

in the country. The government claimed that we are not in a position to seal our borders on humanitarian basis and also due to natural disasters. However, we are trying to stop these refugees.

The Bangladesh government claimed that currently more than 10 lakh Rohingyas are staying in refugee camps in southern Bangladesh. The Myanmar government has not provided citizenship to majority of them in their country, hence their return to Myanmar is doubtful. The government has accepted that the financial aid extended by the United Nations to run these refugee camps is not enough and due to the increasing inflation it has become impossible for the Bangladesh government to bear their expenses. Some time ago, the efforts made by Bangladesh government to settle these refugees in some islands also failed. The Bangladesh government has requested the United Nations that these refugees shall be immediately provided with food grains and other relief material on humanitarian basis because there is a possibility of outbreak of pandemic due to continuous rain.

Foreign affairs minister of Bangladesh Mohammad Touhid Hossain said that now we are not at all in favour of giving refuge to any Rohingya refugee in our country. Whatever requests we had

made to the Indian government regarding these refugees have been rejected. This apart, no other Muslim nation is ready to give shelter to these refugees in their country. The Bangladesh government has

appealed to the international community that pressure should be exerted on Myanmar government so that they stop the military attack on Rohingya Muslims so that they can stay peacefully at their homes.

## Pakistan man arrested in USA on charges of conspiring for terrorist attack



**Taasir** (September 8) states that a Pakistan citizen staying in Canada, Muhammad Shahzeb Khan, was arrested recently. He was arrested on charges providing financial help to Islamic terrorist organisation ISIS and conspiring to carry out a massive terrorist attack in New York in the US. His plan was to carry out a terrorist attack in the US on the occasion of the anniversary of the October 7 attack carried out by Hamas in Israel. The purpose of this attack was to kill the Jews staying in the US and Canada and their supporters. The government lawyer claimed that the US intelligence agency FBI unravelled this plot following an investigation. The FBI had

sought the cooperation of intelligence agencies of Canada and other nations in this connection.

FBI director Christopher Wray said that Shahzeb Khan had tried to reach New York from Canada. He had also bought dangerous weapons in large quantity for this attack. His plan was to attack a Jewish centre located in Brookline. For this, he had prepared his many other colleagues as well. If he is proved guilty, Shahzeb is likely to get a punishment of more than 20 years in jail. The Canadian government expelled the accused from the country and handed him over to the US.

**Inqilab** (September 1) states that the soldiers of the US and Iraq have launched a nationwide campaign against ISIS in Iraq. At least 15 terrorists were killed during this action. Whereas seven US soldiers were also injured during this campaign. The US Central Command claimed that a huge cache of grenades and other most modern weapons were seized from the killed terrorists. This action took place in Anbar province in Iraq. Several major terrorists of ISIS were among those killed.

## Eight Afghan soldiers killed in clashes with Pakistan Army

**Taasir** (September 10) states that eight Afghan soldiers were killed in clashes that took place with Pakistan Army on the borders of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. These clashes took place in the border district of Kurram. According to Pakistani newspaper 'Dawn,' the Afghan soldiers attacked a

Pakistani check-post using heavy weapons in Palosin area on the Pak-Afghan border, which the Pakistani Army retaliated as well. At least eight Afghan soldiers were killed in this attack. Among those killed included two senior commanders of Afghan Army. The Pakistan Army claimed

that nearly 16 Afghan soldiers were injured in this attack. Tension has been rising between Pakistan and Afghanistan almost daily. Three days ago, the assailants of banned Islamic terrorist organisation Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) attacked a check-post of Frontier Corps in Marghan area in central Kurram. A Pakistani Army officer was killed in this attack and three others were injured. Due to these clashes, people have been fleeing in large numbers from the villages located near the border.



**Hindustan Express** (September 11) states that at least six Pakistan policemen and seven civilians were injured in an explosion that took place in Wana tehsil in South Waziristan in Pakistan. This apart, armed assailants carried out an attack on the vice-chancellor of Gomal University Dr Shakibullah when he was coming out of the premises of Agriculture University located in Dera Ismail Khan. His driver was killed in this attack. According to police sources, in another attack, the terrorists targeted two police vans which were on the way to provide security to the polio teams on Kari Kot Road in Rustam Bazar locality in South Waziristan.

**Avadhnama** (September 12) states that the people had to bear the consequences of the differences that have erupted between the federal government of Pakistan and the administration of Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa. Currently, the federal government is headed by Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz). Whereas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) is in power. The allegation of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government is that the federal government is not paying the money that has been allocated in the budget for the development of the state. Due to this, the entire administration and development programme are in limbo. On the other hand, the federal government allege that the money that it provides to the state government are being used by the corrupt officials and leaders of the state.

Due to the spiking price rise in Pakistan, public anger is also on the rise. People have come out on the streets against the load-shedding on electricity and gas. Former minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Inayatullah Khan allege that these have been cut at the instance of the federal government so that the people will be forced to overthrow the state government. He said that our financial resources are very limited and hence we have to be dependent on the allocation by the federal government. He said that due to the stand of the federal government, we had to cancel many development projects. Currently, the federal government is supposed to pay Rs 70 billion to the state government, which it has not done.

## Two Pakistanis sentenced for inciting to kill Dutch leader

**Sahafat** (September 11) states that a court in Netherlands has awarded a jail term of four years and 14 years respectively to the chief of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan Saad Hussain Rizvi and Mohammad Ashraf Jalali. They have been accused of inciting their followers to kill anti-Islam Dutch leader Geert Wilders. The case was heard against these two fundamentalist Islamic leaders in their absence at a court in

Netherlands. Ashraf Jalali, 56, has been accused of inciting his followers to kill anti-Islam Dutch leader Geert Wilders. He had also announced a huge reward to those who kill Wilders. Twenty nine year-old Saad Hussain Rizvi was also given punishment on this charge.

It is to be noted that in 2023, a Dutch court had awarded 12-year-jail term to Pakistani cricketer Khalid Latif on the





same charge. It is said that anti-Islam

Dutch leader Geert Wilders had announced a competition to draw the cartoon of Prophet Mohammad. Protests took place in several Muslim countries over this. Following this, Wilders had cancelled this competition. Since then, Muslims have been regularly threatening to kill him. Wilders stays under security round-the-clock.

## Chief Election Commissioner resigns in Bangladesh

**Avadhnama** (September 6) states that the Chief Election Commissioner of Bangladesh and four other election commissioners had to resign from their posts on the orders of the new government. They were accused that fraud was committed at their behest in the general elections held in Bangladesh in January this year and Sheikh Hasina and her party Awami League were brought to power. However, chief election commissioner Kazi Habibul Awal and four other regional election commissioners rejected this allegation. It is to be noted that after the nationwide violent protest that took place in Bangladesh, former prime minister Sheikh Hasina had to flee from the country.



**Urdu Times** (September 12) states that Bangladesh's foreign affairs minister Md Touhid Hossain has indicated that the Bangladesh government would urge the Indian government that they hand over former prime minister Sheikh Hasina to them so that a case for genocide could be tried against her. He said that an extradition treaty exists between the two countries. This agreement talks about exchange of accused persons between the two countries. He said that we are hopeful that India will honour this agreement. The Bangladesh government is preparing to register a case against Hasina for the murder of 1,000 people. This apart, two cases have already been registered against her. In connection with investigation into the case, so far 10

former ministers and senior advisors have been arrested.

**Avadhnama** (September 5) states that a campaign has been unleashed to recover the thousands of weapons looted from police stations and military camps during the violent protests that took place in Bangladesh in the past few days. As part of this campaign, 3,700 weapons have been seized so far. The Bangladesh government said that these weapons were looted by the mob from the police. Earlier, the government had announced that if any person possesses any looted weapon, then they should deposit the same in the police station, otherwise stringent action will be taken against them. The police commissioner of Dhaka has confirmed that some police officers were arrested on charges of killing the protesters and their interrogation is being held so that appropriate action could be taken against the leaders and officials who had given orders to them to open fire.

## Houthis launch attack on Israel



**Roznama Sahara** (September 16) reports that French news agency 'AFP' has claimed that the Houthis have targeted Tel Aviv, the business centre of Israel and the buildings located in the central Israel region. It has been claimed that nine persons were injured in this attack. A spokesperson of Israel Army, while confirming the attack, said the attack was carried out by using a surface-to-surface ballistic missile. This missile was launched by Iran-supported Houthi rebels from a base in Yemen nearly 2,000 kilometres away. Israeli Army said the missile was intercepted on the way and Israel did not suffer any serious damages.

On the other hand, Israeli newspaper 'Jerusalem Post' has claimed that this ballistic missile was fired from Yemen towards Tel Aviv which the Arrow 3 missile of Israel had failed to stop for the first time. Whereas another missile was destroyed on the way. Yet another missile fell at a railway station in Israel. The Houthi rebels in Yemen announced that this was just the beginning of the attack, which will continue.

Spokesperson of Houthi army Yahya Saree said this attack was carried out using new hypersonic ballistic missile and its aim was to target Israeli military bases located

in Jaffa. He said that our attack was a success and the missile targeted Israeli military base nearly 2040 kilometres away from Yemen. Vice-chairman of the media authority of Houthis Nasreddin Amer claimed this attack was carried out by the Houthis to express solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza. The Houthi rebels have been continuously targeting the ships of Israel and its allied nations since November last year. Commenting about these attacks, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the Houthis who sit in Yemen should know what price they will have to pay for carrying out such attacks on Israel. He said we will give befitting reply to such attacks.

As per another news, the missile attacks from Lebanon have also increased. The Israeli settlements in Golan Heights and the schools there have been targeted from Lebanon. The newspapers published from Israel have also confirmed these attacks. It is worth mentioning that recently the Israel Prime Minister had announced that Israel is starting a largescale military campaign against Lebanon. The Israeli generals have devised an extensive plan for this attack.

**Mumbai Urdu News** (September 15) states that the clashes between Israel

and Lebanon's militia organisation Hezbollah have gone up. Nearly 13 lakh people were rendered homeless in the Israeli bombings in several locations in Lebanon as a retaliatory measure for the Lebanese attacks on Israel.

**Hindustan** (September 9) states that senior commander of Iran's Pasdaran-e-Inqilab (IRGC), Major General Hossein Salami, has claimed that Israel had targeted 14 Iranian ships in the past six years in order to stop the export of Iranian oil. Whereas, as a retaliatory measure, Iran had

targeted 12 Israeli ships. He said that earlier they did not know who were attacking their ships but now we have come to know that the Jews were responsible for these attacks. He also alleged that Israel had stopped its two ships in Greece. According to Wall Street Journal, Israel had targeted 12 ships which were on their way to Syria. It is being said that these ships were carrying Iranian oil and weapons. Iran had also accused Israel of trying to destroy several of its nuclear bases.

## Nuclear plant established in United Arab Emirates



**Urdu Times** (September 7) states that the United Arab Emirates had announced that it had established the first nuclear power plant of the Arab world in its territory. The state-owned Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC) said in a statement that Abu Dhabi's Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant will produce 40 terawatt-hours of electricity annually after its fourth and final reactor started commercial operations. The nuclear plant will generate 25 percent of the electricity needs of the hot desert Gulf state, where air-conditioning is ubiquitous. The nuclear plant will power several companies including the Abu Dhabi

National Oil Company (ADNOC), one of the world's biggest oil producers, Emirates Steel and Emirates Global Aluminium. The Barakah nuclear power plant started operations in 2020.

Recently Saudi Arabia has also announced the plan to construct a nuclear plant in order to fulfil the increasing requirement for electricity in the country. Talks are being held with several countries to set up the plant. Till now it has not been decided which country's cooperation should be sought for the establishment of the plant. The United Arab Emirates had been dependent on oil for energy. Now it has decided to develop nuclear energy as an alternative model. It is to be noted that in Iran's coastal city Bushahar, work is on to establish a nuclear energy plant with the cooperation of Russia. It is said that Russia has assured Iran of help in the enrichment of Uranium as well.

## Chinese Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia

**Etemaad** (September 12) states that Chinese Prime Minister Li Qiang had arrived in Riyadh on the invitation of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman. In a statement issued by office of

Chinese Prime Minister, it has been said that Prime Minister Li Qiang took part in the fourth meeting of the high-level China-Saudi Joint Committee along with the Crown Prince of Saudi, Mohammad bin



Salman. The Chinese Prime Minister said we want to strengthen coordination and cooperation between the two countries in different sectors. They include bilateral cooperation in politics, security, trade, energy, investment, culture and industry between the two countries.

This was the first visit by a Chinese Prime Minister to any Arab nation. After Saudi Arabia, he will visit United Arab Emirates as well. As per government statement, apart from increasing the cooperation in trade, the two countries are keen to increase cooperation in oil, gas and petrochemical sectors. Along with the Chinese Prime Minister, the commerce minister and the minister for industry and information technology are also visiting Saudi Arabia. China wants to make investments in many government firms in Saudi Arabia. This includes Aramco and Sabic. China wants to make huge investments in foreign countries. In this connection, they are also likely to hold talks with the officials of Gulf Cooperation Council.

In 2023, trade worth 107 billion US dollars took place between China and Saudi Arabia. Out of this, China had imported goods worth 64 billion dollars. Saudi Arabia's Minister for Industries and Mineral Resources Bandar Alkhorayef said that Saudi Arabia wants to take maximum advantage of Chinese currency Yuan in crude oil trade. In this connection, Saudi Arabia's minister also made a visit to

China. In 2022, Saudi Arabia had decided to purchase weapons worth four billion US dollars from China.

Of late, China has started taking a special interest in the Arab world in Middle-East. Last year, while displaying successful diplomacy, China had called the two old rivals of Arab world namely Iran and Saudi

Arabia to Beijing all of a sudden and the two countries re-established diplomatic relations after a gap of 16 years due to the effort of China. Iran is considered as anti-US, which the China is trying to exploit. Its effort is to establish its dominance in the region in place of Western countries in order to exploit the economic opportunities of Arab world. This is the reason why along with Iran, China is trying to supply most modern weapons to Saudi Arabia as well.

It is a well-known fact that there was a stressful relationship between Iran and Saudi Arabia for a long time. Iran is a Shia nation. Whereas the rulers of Saudi Arabia are radical Sunni and Wahabi. The relations between Sunnis and Shias have been that of enmity right from the beginning. Iran's allegation is that Saudi Arabia is adopting a policy of torturing the Shias. A few years ago, Saudi Arabia had also hanged to death a few Shia scholars. Despite this, China took efforts to bring the two countries closer. Recently China had come out with another trump card in Arab politics. It tried to take political advantage out of the war that has broken out between Israel and Hamas. China has succeeded in bringing together 14 Palestinian Islamic extremist organisations including Hamas and its rival organisation Fatah on one platform. Due to this the Chinese dominance in Arab world increased and created difficulties for the United States.

## Huge win for radicals in Jordan's parliamentary elections

**Roznama Sahara** (September 13) reports that in the parliamentary elections held in Jordan, fundamentalist Islamic party, Islamic Action Front (IAF) registered a huge victory. Till now, this party had been in the Opposition. IAF is considered as close to the controversial organisation Ikhwanul Muslimeen (Muslim Brotherhood) in Egypt. The party has registered its victory in 31 seats out of the total 138 seats in the Parliament. The IAF took the benefit out of the public sentiment that had arisen in support of Hamas during the elections. In Jordan, IAF is a political branch of Ikhwanul Muslimeen. It is worth mentioning that Palestinians have registered themselves in huge numbers in the voters list in Jordan. Jordan has been counted among the block of Western nations right from the beginning and it is considered as an ally of the US. This apart, it also has diplomatic relationship with Israel. The sentiment of the people of Jordan is against Israel. IAF had also organised protests in support of Hamas. They registered huge victory in the elections due to these protests.

It is worth mentioning that the US, European Union and other Western nations had declared Hamas a terrorist organisation. This parliamentary election has taken place after the amendments made in election laws in 2022. As per this amendment, 41 seats in the Parliament have been reserved for political parties for the first time in Jordan. The purpose of the amendment law was to reduce the grip of tribes on power and promote political activities. However, the truth is that in Jordan, the King has absolute power, but now pressure is mounting on to make political parties as partners in power. The chief of IAF said the people of Jordan increased our responsibility by supporting us. He said it was for the first time after



1989 that his party registered such a huge success. In 1989, the party had won 22 seats out of the total 80 seats in Parliament.

As per official media, the people of Jordan remained indifferent to the parliamentary elections and only 32 percent voters took part in the voting. In this elections, 27 women also registered victory. General secretary of IAF Murad Al-Adailah told correspondents that the victory of his party is like a referendum where the people had supported Hamas and its allies. The people had stressed that the peace agreement that Jordan had signed with Israel in 1994 should be cancelled immediately.

King Abdullah II, who took over the reins of power in 1999, has the power to swear in any government or remove it from power. This apart, he has also got the Constitutional power to dissolve the Parliament. This apart, if a no-confidence motion is passed in the Parliament, it would be mandatory for the cabinet to resign. King Abdullah II had expressed hope that the election results have paved the way to bring constitutional reforms in the country. It is to be noted that currently Jordan has a debt of 50 billion dollars and the unemployment rate has reached 21 percent. There is lot of dissatisfaction among the people due to this situation.

## Dozens killed in military attack in Sudan



**Avadhnama** (September 11) states that civil war has once again broken out in the south-eastern city of Sennar in Sudan. Nearly 31 people were killed and over 100 people injured in indiscriminate firing by paramilitary force Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in a market in Sennar. An NGO, 'Emergency Lawyers' which keeps a tab on the killing of citizens during the civil war and other human rights violations in Sudan, said that RSF has once again launched an attack in the city. Currently, there is heavy downpour in Sudan, due to which the civil war has slowed down. Darfur Governor Minni Minnawi had accused RSF of launching attacks using drones. Many areas of Darfur are under the control of military government.


It is to be noted that the population of Sudan is more than four crore, out of which 70 percent are Arab Muslims. There are huge deposits of gold, platinum, copper, zinc and cobalt in Sudan. Whereas the US, European Union and the United Nations had declared South Sudan as a separate nation. In this region, there are only 6 percent Muslims. The rest of the population are Christians. Unfortunately for Sudan, a civil war is raging in the country for the past 30 years. Till now, at least 20 lakh people have been killed in this

civil war and 50 lakh people have been rendered homeless. From May 1986 till June 1989, Ahmed al-Mirghani was in power in Sudan. In 1989, the then chief of Sudanese Army, Omar al-Bashir rebelled and took the reins of the country in his hands. He ruled like a dictator for nearly 30 years. Later public anger rose against his dictatorship. Due to massive anti-government protests and hartals, a military coup took place in Sudan in 2019 and Army chief of Sudan General Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan captured power. He had announced his colleague and the commander of RSF General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo as the vice-president. Later, a clash erupted between the two friends on the issue of sharing power and clashes are taking place since then.

Sudan is currently divided into two parts. The two groups are attacking each other with the help of the Army. There is a massive shortage of food items due to the civil war. Sudan is currently in the grip of a famine due to which hundreds of innocent people are dying every day and their bodies are strewn around in villages and cities. Due to the non-burial of these bodies, many types of epidemics have spread. The efforts made by the United Nations to control the civil war had failed.

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