

# Dalit-Backward Hindus Easily Fall into the Trap of Illegal Conversions



by Sanjay Saxena

In India, the roots of the illegal conversion syndicate run very deep. Significant funds come from Arab and various Muslim countries to promote conversion through channels like hawala. This is not a hidden fact, but the laws in place to counter such activities have never been effective enough to prevent foreign funding for conversions. This was evident when the ATS-NIA court in Lucknow completed hearings on illegal conversions and revealed that the reach of those funding conversions from abroad was extensive. Nevertheless, the court sentenced

12 people involved in illegal conversions through foreign funds to life imprisonment and four others to ten years in prison each. This will likely have some impact. Several cases of systematic inducement leading to conversions have emerged in the state, and the fact that the ATS has successfully secured convictions for so many individuals simultaneously suggests that such activities may decrease. The convicted individuals were part of a gang that lured people away from Hinduism to Islam, particularly targeting the disadvantaged and Dalit communities, who are more easily swayed by promises of a better life. The extent of brainwashing can be seen in how converted youths became actively involved in the conversion efforts. Foreign funding for conversions has been reported before. The ATS and NIA should

now work towards dismantling this entire network. The Yogi government is already stringent on this issue, as evidenced by the introduction of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act, 2021. People have the right to choose any religion of their choice, but coercion or inducement behind such conversions is unacceptable. Every religion has its own beliefs and the faith of individuals is deeply rooted, making it difficult to uproot. Those with malevolent intentions attempt to do so. Such attempts at conversion aim to create social imbalance, and hence, strict action should be taken against them. It was also revealed that a significant illegal conversion operation was being funded through a Delhi-based NGO. NGO operators Mohammad Umar Gautam and Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui from

Meerut had mobilized large sums of money from abroad, which were channeled to gang members for converting mute and deaf children, women, and economically weaker individuals through intimidation or inducements. In this disturbing case, crores of rupees were sent to agents via hawala to incorporate Hindus into the Muslim community. Thanks to the effective prosecution by the ATS, 16 accused, including Umar and Kaleem, were sentenced on September 11, 2024. It is noteworthy that the conspiracy behind illegal conversions was first exposed in June 2021, when two suspicious youths, Vipul Vijay Vargiya and Kashif, attempted to enter the Shiv Shakti Dham Devi Temple in Dasna, Ghaziabad with harmful intentions. During interrogation, it was revealed that Vipul, originally from Nagpur, had con-

verted to Islam some years ago and married a Muslim woman in Ghaziabad. Kashif was his brother-in-law. The inquiry identified Mohammad Umar Gautam and Mufi Kazi Jahangir Alam Kasmi from Jamia Nagar, Delhi, as those responsible for Vipul's conversion. Umar had converted Vipul and renamed him Ramzan. Umar operated the Islamic Dawah Center in Jamia, Delhi, with other accomplices. Maulana Kaleem from Meerut played a highly active role in this scheme. Kaleem managed the Jamia Imam Walullah Trust, which received funding. The ATS investigation revealed that Kaleem's trust received Rs 1.5 crore in a single transaction from Bahrain. It was also found that the same sources that funded Umar Gautam's Al-Hassan Education and Welfare Foundation were

also funding Kaleem's trust. Maulana Kaleem Siddiqui from Muzaffarnagar primarily operated his activities from Delhi. Evidence showed that Kaleem's trust received over Rs 20 crore in funding. Umar Gautam's active associate Dr. Faraz Shah was arrested by the ATS from Yavatmal, Maharashtra. Faraz, an MBBS doctor running a clinic near his home, was involved in illegal conversion activities. UP DGP Prashant Kumar stated that the ATS-NIA court's decision affirms the effectiveness of the UP ATS's actions and quality investigation against illegal conversions and disruptive elements. The conviction of the 16 accused in the illegal conversion syndicate clearly indicates that there is no place for antisocial and anti-national activities in Uttar Pradesh.

## No-Fly Zones Enforced for President's Visit in Ranchi

Drones, Aerial Activities Banned in Ranchi

**Ranchi:** In anticipation of the President's visit to Ranchi on 19th and 20th September 2024, stringent security measures have been implemented. The Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi has issued directives prohibiting drones, paragliding, and hot air balloons, as well as other related aerial activities, in the vicinity of the Raj Bhavan and the event locations. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Sadar, Ranchi, has declared these areas as No Drone Zones, employing powers under Section 163 of the BNSS. The restrictions will be in effect from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on both days, said an official. Particularly, the No Fly Zone will cover: The route from Birsa Munda Airport to Hinoo Chowk, Birsa Chowk, Argora Chowk, and Raj Bhavan on 19 September and on 20 September, the route from Raj Bhavan to Argora Chowk, via Kadru, Rajendra Chowk, Sadabahar Chowk, and extending to a radius of 200 meters around the ICAR National Institute of Secondary Agriculture, Tata Road, Namkum. This comprehensive ban is aimed at ensuring the safety and security of the President during the visit, with enforcement to prevent any aerial disturbances in these specified zones.

## DRDO Successfully Completes Field Trials of Indian Light Tank 'Zorawar'



**New Delhi:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has achieved a significant milestone with the successful completion of preliminary automotive trials for the Indian Light Tank, 'Zorawar'. Designed for high-altitude and challenging terrains, the tank demonstrated remarkable performance during field tests conducted in desert conditions, fulfilling all set objectives. The trials included rigorous evaluations of the tank's firing accuracy, which met the required standards on designated targets. The Zorawar has been developed by the Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, with substantial contributions from various Indian industries, including Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), highlighting the strength of India's indigenous defence manufacturing. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commended DRDO, the Indian Army, and all industry partners for their roles in the successful trials. He hailed the achievement as a crucial step towards India's objective of self-reliance in essential defence technologies and systems.

## "Qualitative and Creative Education Essential for Knowledge Acquisition"

**Bokaro:** A 'Samvad' program was held today at DAV Public School Sector 6, bringing together the Principal and parents of students from classes 8 through 12. Principal Anuradha Singh emphasized the importance of qualitative and creative education for achieving excellent exam results and overall student development. During the session, held in the school's multipurpose hall, the Principal provided insights into the CBSE and DAV Board curricula, highlighting strategies for practical knowledge and academic success. The program, which saw the participation of over 150 parents, focused on the new education policy's initiatives for progressive development. Key topics included enhancing students' creative, logical, and cognitive skills. Parents also shared their perspectives on educational development. The event featured contributions from Jahnvi Banerjee, Swaroop Kumar Nath, and technical expert Shyam Bhushan Srivastava, who played crucial roles in the seminar's success.

## Seminar Links Karma Festival with Nature, Culture, and Education

**Ranchi:** In anticipation of the Karma Festival, an online seminar was hosted today by the Government Teachers Training College, Kanke, in collaboration with Dr. Om Prakash from the Literary Events Department. The seminar was led by Principal-in-charge Dr. Raman Kumar Jha, who welcomed attendees. Keynote speaker Dr. Suchitra Behera, Head of the M.Ed. Department at Kolhan University, emphasized the vital connection between nature, culture, and education. Eminent educationist Dr. Vasudev Prasad advocated for the preservation of natural festivals. The event featured contributions from Dr. Kumari Sanju Singh (Doranda College), Dr. Pushpa Lata (Deoghar), Dr. Vinay Bharat (Shyama Prasad Mukherjee University), and Dr. Florence Puri (Saint Xavier College). Dr. Mazharul Haq concluded the seminar with a reflective Nazm on its significance. Attendees included trainees from the 2023-25 and 2024-26 sessions.

## CPS Honors Writer Ram Narayan Upadhyay on Birth Anniversary



by Arun Pathak

**Bokaro:** Crescent Public School in Sector 6 hosted a tribute event on September 12 to commemorate the birth anniversary of renowned Hindi and Bhojpuri writer and astrologer Pt. Ram Narayan Upadhyay. The event included a kavi goshthi, where local writers gathered to honor Upadhyay's legacy.

The program commenced with floral tributes to Upadhyay's photo. Senior writer Sukh Nandan Singh 'Sadya', Dr. Nar Narayan Tiwari, Dr. Asha Pushp, Om Raj, Lalan Tiwari, Dr. Parmeshwar Bharti, and Arun Pathak highlighted Upadhyay's significant contributions to literature and astrology. They lauded his simple yet profound approach to depicting everyday life in his works.

The kavi goshthi, chaired by Dr. Nar Narayan Tiwari and conducted by Dr. Parmeshwar Bharti, featured poignant recitations by poets Om Raj and Manoj Kumar Singh, who expressed the void left by Upadhyay's passing. Sukh Nandan Singh 'Sadya' reminisced about Bokaro's early days, while Arun Pathak celebrated the Hindi language. Other poets, including Lalan Tiwari and Dr. Parmeshwar Bharti, delivered impactful pieces in Bhojpuri and Hindi.

## NCU Hosts Hindi Book Exhibition for Hindi Diwas



**RNS:** In celebration of Hindi Diwas, NorthCap University (NCU) organized a special Book Exhibition dedicated to Hindi literature on 13 September. This annual event, observed on 14th September, marks the anniversary of the Constituent Assembly of India's adoption of Hindi as the official language of the nation in 1949.

The exhibition, held in the NCU library, was announced by Dr. Anil Kumar Jharotia, the university librarian. The event attracted a substantial turnout from both students and faculty members, who explored the library's extensive collection of Hindi books. Attendees engaged with a diverse array of literary works, reflecting the cultural richness and linguistic heritage celebrated on Hindi Diwas.

Hindi Diwas underscores the significance of Hindi within India's multilingual landscape, honoring its role while respecting the country's linguistic diversity. The day also commemorates the constitutional provisions related to the official language, as enshrined in Articles 343 to 351. The NCU Book Exhibition provided a platform for students and faculty to delve into Hindi literature, fostering appreciation for the language and its literary contributions.

## NUSRL Celebrates Karam Festival with Vibrant Festivities

**Ranchi:** The National University of Study and Research in Law (NUSRL) Ranchi marked a memorable celebration of the Karam Festival today, embracing both tradition and cultural heritage in a grand fashion. The festivities kicked off with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, attended by Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ashok R. Patil, Registrar Dr. Jisu Ketan Patnaik, and Assistant Professor Ram Chandra Oraon, among other esteemed faculty members.

The event commenced with a captivating narration by student Sakshi, who shared the mythological tale of the brothers Karam and Dhar-am. This was followed by the presentation of an engaging documentary on the Karam festival, produced by Akhra, which provided a rich visual context for the celebration. The highlight of the day was a vibrant fashion show featuring student models who showcased the traditional attire and unique lifestyles of Jharkhand's five major tribes: Ho, Khadiya, Munda, Santhali, and Oraon. Through their performances,



the students celebrated the distinctiveness of each tribe and underscored the deep connection between these communities and nature. In addition, the audience was treated to an enchanting performance of Karam songs and dances, further adding to the festive atmosphere. Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ashok R. Patil praised the event, stating, "This year's Karam Festival holds special significance for us. The enthusiasm shown by our students towards nature and conservation is truly commendable.

We aim to further this spirit by hosting next year's festival in a tribal village, which will provide us with deeper insights into their issues and help us contribute towards their resolution." Assistant Registrar Dr. Jisu Ketan Patnaik expressed his gratitude to the students and organizing committee for their efforts. He remarked, "Events like these are vital for fostering an appreciation of nature and raising awareness about its conservation. The active participation of the university community

has made this celebration a resounding success." The Karam Festival at NUSRL not only reinforced students' pride in their cultural heritage but also highlighted the university's commitment to preserving cultural diversity and integrating traditional values into modern education. This event has set a precedent for cultural celebrations in educational institutions, emphasizing the importance of cultural awareness, environmental consciousness, and community engagement.

## Port Blair to Be Renamed 'Sri Vijaya Puram'

**RNS | New Delhi:** New Delhi: The government has decided to rename Port Blair in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as Sri Vijaya Puram. Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the change via social media, stating that the renaming aims to remove colonial legacies and honor the nation's freedom struggle.

Amit Shah emphasized that Sri Vijaya Puram represents the victory and sacrifices made during India's quest for independence. He highlighted the historical importance of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, noting their role as a naval base for the Chola Empire and their strategic significance in contemporary times. The Union Home Minister also pointed out that the islands were the site of the first unfurling of the Tiranga by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose



and the infamous cellular jail where Veer Savarkar and other freedom fighters endured hardships in their fight for an independent India.

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## Hindi Binds All Indians Together: Dr. Gangwar

\*Hindi Diwas Celebrated with Enthusiasm at DPS Bokaro; Literary Magazine 'Swarā' Released\*

**Bokaro:** Hindi Diwas celebrated with zeal at Delhi Public School (DPS) Bokaro on Friday. Dr. A.S. Gangwar, Principal of DPS Bokaro, emphasized the significance of Hindi in uniting the nation and preserving its rich cultural heritage during the Hindi Diwas celebrations. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Gangwar highlighted Hindi's role as the most widely spoken and understood language in India, asserting that it embodies the nation's culture, history, and prosperity. Despite being designated as the official language on September 14, 1949, Dr. Gangwar la-



mented that Hindi has yet to achieve the status of a national language. He pointed out the language's universal appeal, simplicity, and literary richness, arguing that its potential is underutilized due to a lack of commitment. The celebration fea-

tured a variety of programs aimed at fostering a love for Hindi among students. Held in the school's Ashwagosh art area, the event included a special prayer meeting conducted entirely in Hindi. Students showcased their talents with performances

that included a presentation of inspiring thoughts by Aradhana Singh, news reading by Anushka Arya, a speech on Hindi's prevalence by Shipra Hembram, and a self-composed poem by Harshita, all of which received high praise. The students also delivered group performances of the songs "Hind Desh Ke Niwasi" and "Saathi Haath Badhana," and enacted a street play depicting the economic impact of war. Additionally, Hindi Day greeting cards featuring student artwork were presented to Dr. Gangwar.

## Now Rs 5L to Every Poor in next Five Years, promise Hemant Soren

**Bokaro:** Chief Minister Hemant Soren unveiled a bold plan during the 'Aapki Sarkar Aapke Dwar' event in Lalpania, Bermo, promising substantial financial assistance to the state's impoverished residents. Speaking to a crowd at the local football ground, Soren declared that the government will provide five lakhs to each poor person over the next five years. Soren used the occasion to criticize the opposition, pledging to secure a decisive victory in the next election and establish an India Alliance govern-



ment. He also cautioned the public against divisive elements seeking to exploit social and religious differences, urging vigilance and unity. In a nod to the region's proud history, Soren re-

lenges with the support of the people. The event also saw the release of the second installment of the Maitya Yojana. Additionally, Soren participated in the virtual inauguration and foundation-laying of multiple projects. Family Welfare Minister Satyanand Bhokta, Women Development Minister Baby Devi, and several MLAs joined the celebration. The Deputy Commissioner welcomed the dignitaries with a shawl and a plant, and the event began with a ceremonial lamp lighting by the guests.