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Central Mosque. After joining the conference the guests found that they had been called to join the election campaign for the AL backed candidate. However, the organisers had to wrap up the programme when most of the imams refused to attend such a campaign. On condition of anonymity, a member of Gazipur Islamic Foundation denied such allegation and claimed that it was false news.

The mixing of religion and politics has become a common phenomenon mostly after the Shahbag movement and the rise of Hefazat-e-Islam. Antonio Gramsci writes that a social group legitimates its dominance in two ways- "Domination" and "Intellectual and Moral Leadership". According to him a social group could use "Domination" to subjugate its people by any means. On the other hand "Intellectual and Moral Leadership" reflects the quality of a leader who exercises leadership before he gains governmental power and people gave him the consent to do so, in other words it is called "hegemony". Dr Nehal Karim believes that in the absence of a hegemonic leadership, inferior politicians of two parties are using religion as a tool to secure votes.

Although Awami League calls itself secular, in the general elections of 1996 and 2008, it politi-