

After page 4

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Implement zero tolerance against communalism

In 2010 we started to receive reports from different parts of Bangladesh that Hindu school teachers were sacked and publicly humiliated for insulting Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). As far as I can remember, I received more than 20 such reports just within two years. Then we decided to look into this matter and in one such case, our investigation revealed that the alleged school teacher never did such a thing and became a victim of rivalry among teachers of that school. The incident was as follows: the alleged teacher had the responsibility to develop the school's annual exam routine. When he finalised the routine, several teachers opposed it as it collided with the schedule of their illegal private tuition. However, he did not pay heed to their demands. One day, when he was walking towards his school, he suddenly saw posters demanding his death penalty for insulting the Prophet. He was then publicly harassed by the goons employed by his rival teachers and ultimately banished from the school. We also found that pro-government and anti-government

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teachers joined together against the Hindu teacher. At one point, we went to the local MP to save his job, but we did not get any positive reply. This incident was just an

OPINION

example of numerous similar incidents. Minority communities have been losing their property and becoming homeless in face of oppression for decades in this country. However, this trend of blaming minorities for insulting the Prophet is completely unique. Since 2011, various such incidents occurred (which ultimately proved to be rumours) where minority people in Ramu, Nasirnagar, Sathia, Rangpur, Dinajpur have been viciously attacked.

After all these incidents, we never got any satisfactory response from the ruling party, local administration or the government except some words of condolence. The last election is the first in which the Bangladesh Awami League (AL) included zero tolerance against communalism in its election manifesto. I see it as a positive step. I think the incident in Bhola is a part of the bigger conspiracy against the party and the government so that the government cannot implement its policy of secularism and non-communalism. I hope the government will realise it and act pragmatically.