



#RejectCAB: What you Need to Know About India's Citizenship Amendment Bill

By: Aysha Qamar

Chaos is sweeping through India as deadly protests erupt across the country over India's Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB). Violent protests began in Assam and also broke out in major cities including New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. Hundreds have been injured especially on college campuses. In Delhi, more than 2,000 students took part in a protest at Jamia Milia Islamia on Sunday. Students told CNN they were beaten with batons and sticks, leaving 200 injured according to the university administra-



tion.

CAB promises to fast-track citizenship for religious minorities from neighboring countries, an effort which seems

to protect prosecuted or marginalized minorities, however, the issue comes with a major group being left out, Muslims. The bill is an amendment to the Citizenship Act of

1955 and was first introduced to India's Parliament in July 2016. The earlier legislation did not factor religion as a criterion to obtain citizen-

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Trump has been impeached by the House of Representatives

By TMO Staff

In December 2019, the House of Representatives voted on two articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump. President Trump has officially been the third president in United States history to be impeached.

The first article is the Abuse of Power by President Trump. The article states that "Using



the powers of his high office, President Trump solicited the interference of a foreign government, Ukraine, in the 2020 United States Presidential election. He did so through a scheme or course of conduct that included soliciting the Government of Ukraine

to publicly announce investigations that would benefit his reelection, harm the election prospects of a political opponent, and influence the 2020 United States Presidential election to his advantage."

The second article is the
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AFMI's 28th International Convention Celebrates Excellence



By: Mohammed Ayub Khan

BHUBANESWAR, INDIA—The American Federation of Muslims of Indian Origin (AFMI)'s 28th International Convention and

Gala Awards Ceremony was held in the historic city of Bhubaneswar on Dec.23-24th 2019. The two-day event attracted awardees and delegates from across India and

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Oregon woman charged with hate crime after allegedly grabbing hijab off student's head

By: TMO Staff.

After she failed to appear in court for her arraignment, authorities issued an arrest warrant for a woman in Oregon who is facing hate crime charges for allegedly grabbing a hijab off of a student's head and attempting to choke her with it, NBC News reported.

The incident took place last year on Nov. 12 when 23-year-old Jasmine Renee Campbell allegedly grabbed the hijab of a 24-year-old Saudi exchange student from Portland State University at a train station, officials said in a statement. "Court documents allege that Campbell used the hijab and rubbed it on and across multiple exposed sexually intimate parts of her body," the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office said, according to NBC News.

In total, Campbell faces one count of harassment,



one count of criminal mischief, two counts of bias crime, and one count of attempted strangulation. As noted by the Associated Press, authorities believe the two women don't know each other outside of the incident.

According to the court affidavit, when asked why she grabbed the hijab, Campbell told police that "she was fighting and

playing around, that she wanted to be a stripper, that she wanted to show the victim that she did not have to be a Muslim, that people don't have to be black or white, and that she wanted the victim to know that religion doesn't define her," local Fox affiliate KPTV reported. The station said that Campbell told its reporter that she had been drinking and lives

with a mental health condition.

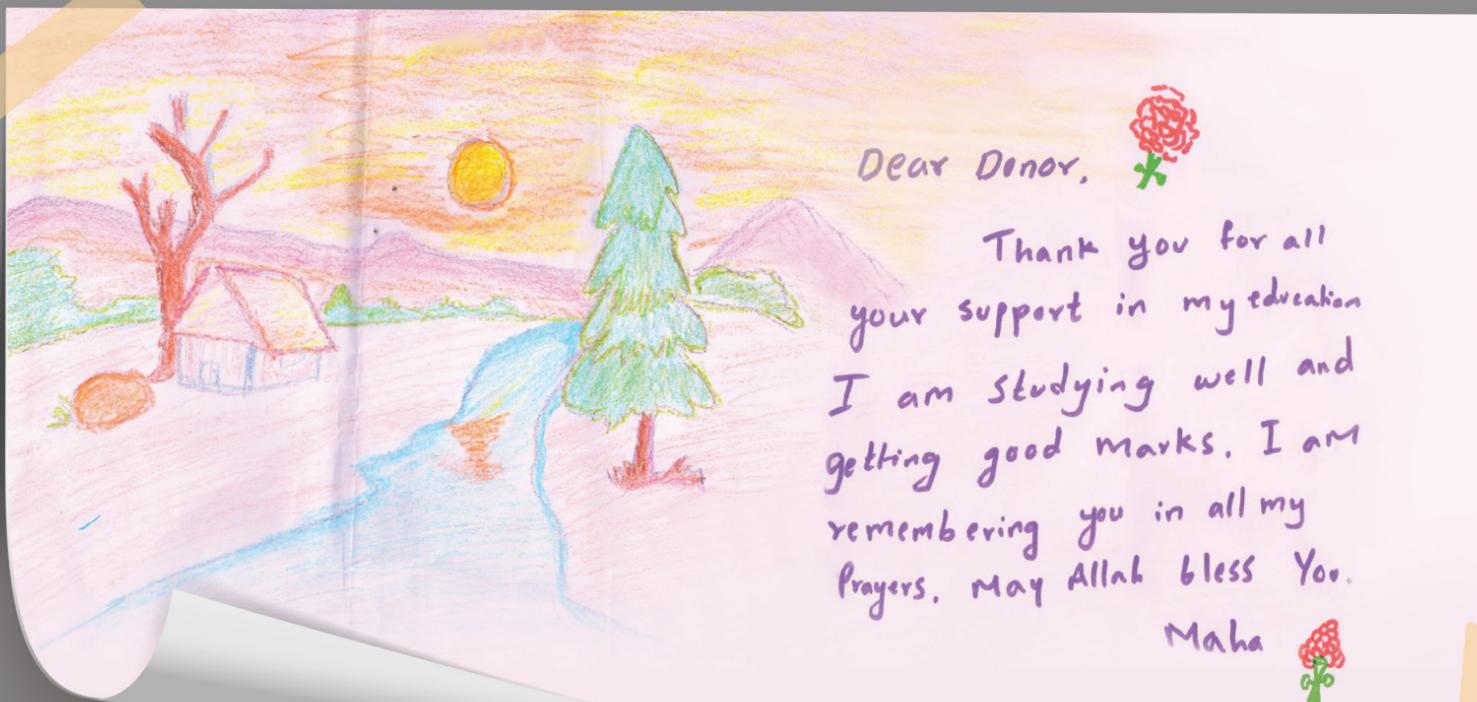
The victim, whose name has not been released, did not want the hijab returned to her after the incident and expressed fear of continuing to wear the religious symbol, the court document read.

A 2018 report by the Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR),

the country's largest Muslim civil rights organization, indicated that bias crimes against Muslims rose 83% in the second quarter of 2018 compared to the first quarter. "Incidents involving government agencies, including the FBI and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, have also risen by 60 percent in this time period," the report noted.

Hate crimes since then have only increased in number, with many going unreported. "We've already reported over 500 incidences of anti-Muslim bias or harassment just this year so far," CAIR's national research and advocacy director, Abbas Barzegar, told The Daily Beast in May 2019. "That's very preliminary reporting. I know a number of our chapters have not filed their reports yet... I believe that's a very low estimate already of

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Americans of all faiths come together in solidarity following 9 anti-Semitic attacks in New York



By: TMO Staff

Americans nationwide have come together in solidarity to condemn attacks that targeted the Jewish community this month in New York. Within the last two weeks, nine anti-Semitic attacks have made headlines in the state, spreading fear in the Jewish community. The most recent attack occurred on Saturday when a man broke into the home of a rabbi and stabbed five people during a Hanukkah celebration. The suspect was arrested and charged with a hate crime, officials said.

In a statement Sunday, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo acknowledged the attack as the state's 13th anti-Semitic incident in three weeks. According to CNN, "The NYPD has reported 166 anti-Semitic incidents from January through September this year." While most of these crimes do not involve assault, anti-Semitic incidents are the most commonly reported hate crimes in New York City.

The rise of anti-Semitic hate crimes has not only spread fear, but has also allowed for citizens to come together to show their support for the Jewish community. In response to the recent attacks, New York citizens rallied and came together to light a menorah Sunday. "The largest Menorah in Brooklyn is now shining bright & proud, just like our Jewish community," advocacy group Bend the Arc: Jewish Action wrote on Twitter.

A tweet from activist and organizer Jason Rosenberg brought widespread attention to the rally, and Grand Army Plaza,

the location of the menorah, was trending on Twitter, The Daily Dot reported. As awareness of the rally spread online, attendance grew to nearly 500 people. "Between rain, people of all faiths and diverse walks of life came together in song and celebration of the final night of Chanukah but also with calls to action to confronting antisemitism," Rosenberg told The Daily Dot in an email.

Other cities joined New York in lighting their own menorahs, including Des Moines, Iowa; Fort Collins, Colorado; and Miami, Florida. At a candlelighting ceremony in Des Moines, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, who identifies as Jewish, spoke of celebrating diversity. He emphasized the rise of hate crimes in the country, and the importance of saying "no to religious bigotry" and coming together as Americans. "If there was ever a time in American history where we say no to religious bigotry, now is the time. If there was ever a time where we say no to divisiveness, now is the moment," Sanders said during the ceremony.

Fort Collins residents expressed the same support for their community. During their town's 15th annual menorah-lighting ceremony, hosted by Chabad Jewish Center of Northern Colorado, Rabbi Yerachmiel Gorelik told those in attendance to be strong, adding that "we must know that no matter how dark it seems to be, the light will prevail." The town's mayor, Wade Troxell, also emphasized unity and said, "As a unified and wonderful community coming together, let us join the praise, the hope, the oneness with the

menorah of lighting the night."

Miami Beach hosted a similar ceremony, where citizens gathered despite being afraid. According to NBC Miami, Rabbi Zev Katz of the Chabad Jewish Synagogue spoke on being unified and strong together as a community. "We are worried about it, but instead of saying we're going to go underground and hide, we do the opposite today. I sent the email: 'Don't hide. Come to the menorah lighting. Be a proud Jew.' Because, that's what we have to do. These people are trying to stop us to be a proud Jew," Katz said.

Towns all over the U.S. are coming together to express the importance of community and showing solidarity, no matter what faith one identifies with, no matter if one identifies with no faith at all. The Jewish community is not alone in the shadow of these attacks, and Americans are determined to make them feel safe. As hate crimes against marginalized communities grow, advocates and citizens for diversity are coming together to unite communities with one another in efforts to combat hate.

Nechama Kramer, a self-defense teacher who lives in Monsey, New York, the town in which the stabbing occurred, told USA Today that those who wear symbols of their faith do not feel safe, but that they will not stop worshipping. "Nothing is going to stop us praying to God," Kramer said. "Nothing is going to stop us being Jewish. I'm really hoping the world can wake up and not be so hateful."

This article was first published on Daily Kos.

India Could Become the Next Breeding Ground for Radicalism

by Muqtedar Khan

This article was first published in The National Interest and republished with permission from the author.

The way India has clamped down on Kashmir, the only Muslim majority state of India since August and the systematic violation of human rights there and across the country can only be described as state-sponsored Islamophobia.

India is reeling from protests all across the country against an ill-advised and communally divisive law, the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which was passed by the Hindu nationalist government of Narendra Modi. The political images coming out of India speak of a nation in turmoil. Students, minorities and activists are protesting across the country. At the same time, police brutality is shamelessly on display and social media is awash with gory images of violence, marches and protests.



This is the present reality. And this reality is the consequence of a series of events and developments that are unraveling and reversing recent gains made by India.

India has made amazing economic progress since the 1990s. Annual GDP growth rates were in the range of 6.5 percent to 7.5 percent. Hundreds of millions of people came out of poverty and the world's biggest democracy also became one of the world's biggest economies. India's international image also

transformed and more and more nations began to look to it for leadership. The United States, in particular, began courting India and Washington began imagining New Delhi as a partner in the management of the global order and a potential ally against rising China.

India's rise to global prominence is built on three pillars—democracy, secularism, and economic growth. India's vibrant democracy, with a reasonably free press, complex elections, and

strong civil society, allowed the United States and European leaders to talk of shared values between India and the West. This is a claim that could not be made with regards to India's geopolitical rivals, Pakistan and China. India's secular ethos further cemented its liberal democratic credentials, which are necessary to share leadership on the global stage.

But since coming to power in 2014, Modi and his Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) have unleashed

an agenda of identity politics and misguided economics that has hammered away at each pillar of India's resurgence. In Modi's first term from 2014–2019, policies such as demonetization, Goods and Services Tax (GST) and growing protection is essentially retarded economic expansion and now according to BJP's own experts real GDP growth rate of Indian economy might be a dismal 1.5 percent. At the moment, India is suffering from economic stagnation and an extremely high level of unemployment that it has not seen in forty-five years.

State-Sponsored Islamophobia

When governance fails, communalism triumphs. BJP won a second majority to the Parliament in 2019 on essentially a communal Hindu agenda and has since unleashed a state-sponsored Islamophobia the like of which has not been witnessed in any democracy. The government of Modi is

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Coalition of Americans for Pluralism in India called an Emergency Meeting

By: TMO Staff

The Coalition of Americans for Pluralism in India (CAPI) called for an emergency community meeting regarding India's new citizenship bill on Dec. 21. This act, also known as Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB), will fast track the citizenship process for Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. The government, led by PM Modi, purposely excludes immigrant Muslims from gaining citizenship.

On top of that, India has implemented National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam, a state of India. NRC requires all existing Indian citizens and residents to prove their citizenship with proper documents. This will be problematic in a country where many don't own these vital



documents needed to prove their citizenship. Many will even have to show their parents' birth certificate to prove that they are Indian citizens despite the fact that these documents were rarely issued.

Those who fail to obtain these scarcely available documents are said to be deported or put into detention centers. This creates a troublesome issue as the government can prosecute certain groups of people. Given

the country's religious current and previous discriminatory problems, this can be a frightening concept for Muslims there who are facing discrimination and have been a target of both police brutality and mob

lynching in the past.

This bill (CAB) is the equivalent of the yellow stars that marked Jews in during the Holocaust. We, as humanity, have

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General Haftar Attacks Internationally Recognized Government in Tripoli

By Yousuf Ali

On December 12th, General Khalifa Haftar announced his intentions to severely escalate Libya's civil war by attempting to capture Tripoli from the internationally recognized Government of National Accord.

According to Al Jazeera, Haftar said, "Today, we announce the decisive battle and the advancement towards the heart of the capital to set it free ... advance now our heroes". The Libyan Civil War started with Haftar attempted a military coup of the elected government in 2013 which instead resulted in his forces taking control of only part of the country while leaving the capital in the hands of the GNA and Haftar setting up a rival Libyan National Army (LNA). The escalation has provoked a reaction from allies of the internationally recognized GNA including



Turkey.

In many ways, the Libyan civil war has become a battleground between rival players in the Middle East some of which support the GNA like Qatar and Turkey and those that support the Tobruk based faction which includes former Gaddafi loyalists like the UAE and Saudi Arabia. This was espe-

cially reinforced when according to Al Jazeera, Turkey offered military assistance to the GNA to repel the attack from Haftar's forces which the GNA accepted.

A Turkish diplomat stated, "If the legitimate government of Libya asks for help for military training or the formation of military institutions following the approval

of the memorandum of understanding on Saturday, then they would be deployed, like in Somalia or Qatar". In addition to Turkey, there is speculation about the involvement of European forces like the French in supporting Haftar's faction against the GNA.

Hirak Jyoti das wrote "Presently, the UN-backed and internation-

ally recognized government in Tripoli has continued, however, the Tobruk based government supported by General Khalifa Haftar is entrenching its presence by taking of territories and more importantly the prized oil facilities.

To conclude, the goal of political solution between the competing governments is contingent on UAE and Qatar's strategic rivalry and their political choices which remain bleak in the near future."

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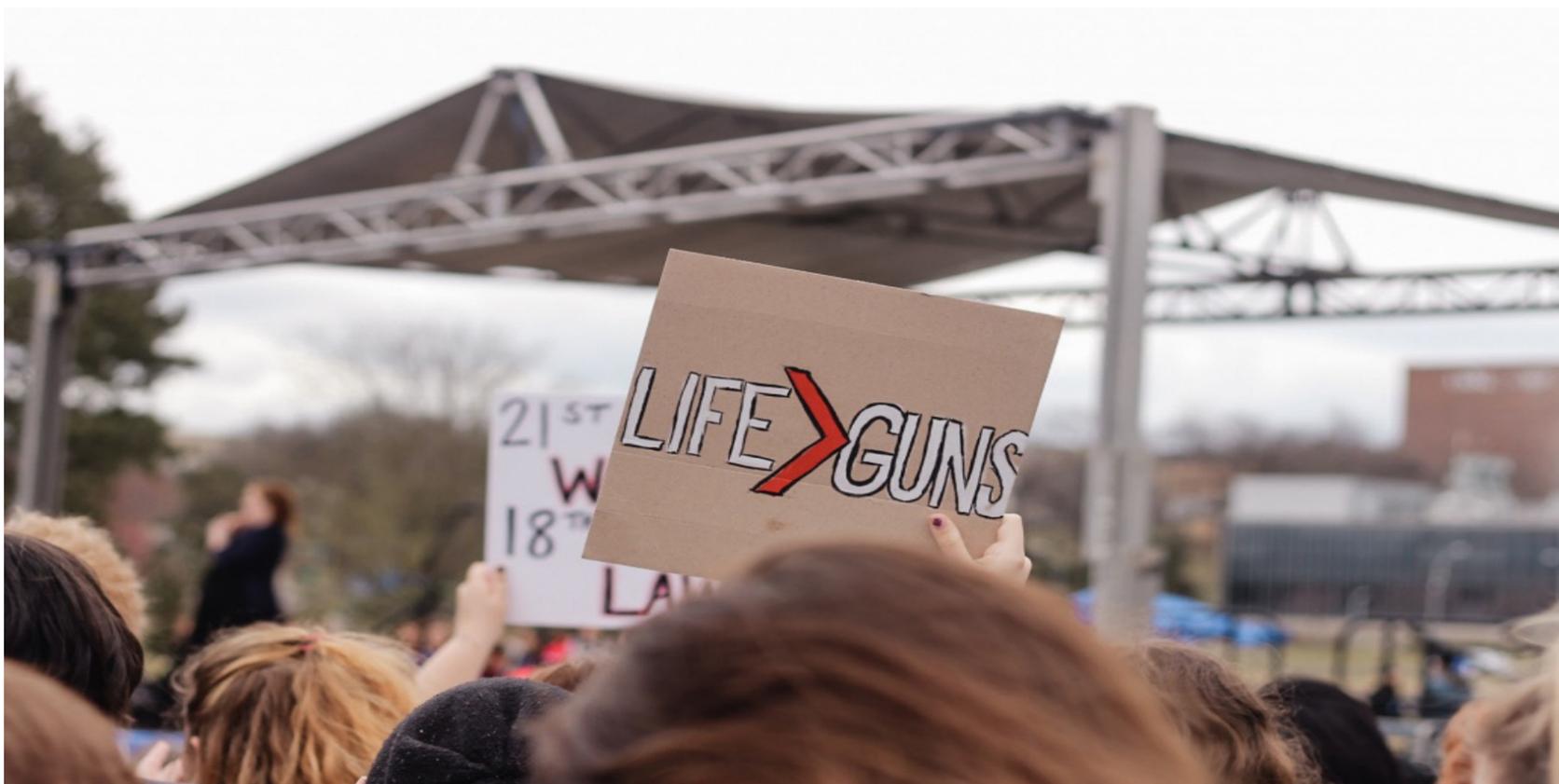
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Communities remain unprepared for the (after-) school shootings that nobody talks about



By: Aysha Qamar

In 2019, students in the United States faced more than 40 shootings during school hours. Schools practice active shooter drills year-round, but often don't take the same precautions when it comes to preparing for shootings during after-school activities, many of which occur when the public and students from more than one school are present. While protests and calls for action typically highlight the dangers of school shootings and in-classroom violence, little attention is given to on-campus gunfire when it occurs during after-school hours. School shootings may make headlines across the nation, but does that concern for safety end when the bell rings?

Since classes began in mid-August 2019, The New York Times reports, "gunfire has erupted more than 20 times at or near school sporting events around the country." That number surpasses campus shootings during school hours. The Times' analysis—compiled using a database, interviews, police

reports, and court documents—found that in the past seven years, 108 incidents of gunfire have been reported across the nation. All 108 incidents were related to school sporting events that occurred after school hours in 36 states, mainly at basketball and football events. At least 19 people have been killed in these incidents, and more than 100 injured.

After-school shootings may not get as much media attention, but they are a recurring (and not new) problem. Data compiled from the Naval Postgraduate School shows that while the issue has been present for years, efforts to prevent such shootings have been minimal, or "in some cases, virtually nonexistent," the Times reported. "There's a growing problem there and we know that it's not some spurious thing—it's something systematic," Justin Kurland, a researcher at the University of Southern Mississippi's National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security, told the Times. "How many of these have to happen before the schools and first responders start to take

this more seriously?"

Researchers told the Times that one reason after-school shootings don't draw as much attention could be that while shootings during school hours are rarer, they are "deadlier." Compared to the 19 killed during sporting event-related after-school activities, "50 have died in active-shooter incidents during the school day" during the same time period. Media coverage, location, and the demographic traits (such as race and class) of those affected by the shootings also contribute to how much awareness is spread, experts told the Times. Victims of shootings during the school day have been predominantly white and from the suburbs, while most after-school shootings occur in larger cities, with predominantly black victims. Michael-Sean Spence, the director of policy and implementation at Everytown for Gun Safety, told the Times that perception and media coverage both play a big role—and can sometimes be a barrier for communities seeking to improve public safety.

Even as campus security continues to increase during school hours, with security and IDs required to walk into different buildings and classes, after-school activities often remain unmonitored, despite the fact that many of these activities are open to the public, or at least any adult or student willing to buy a ticket. "In an event like this where you expect people to come and have a good time and not have any issues, it's just one of those things," Atlanta Public Schools police chief Ron Applin told the Times. "Anybody could get a gun into the stadium, probably." So how, exactly, can schools improve their after-hours security, and ensure that students and the public can enjoy these events without fear?

According to the National Center for Education Statistics' data for the 2015-2016 school year, 94% of public schools reported they monitored doors and secured building access and 68% required staff and faculty to wear ID, while less than 10% used metal detectors as a safety measure. Often, schools opt to purchase metal detectors only after

shootings have occurred on campus, or when weapons are regularly confiscated in classrooms. In the Department of Homeland Security's Guide for Preventing and Protecting Against Gun Violence, the government agency recommends metal detectors as a means of risk management. Some community advocates find metal detectors troublesome, comparing their use to a detention center. Yet in many instances, metal detectors have helped schools prevent gun violence.

Of course, metal detectors will not resolve the problems that lead to someone bringing a gun to school, but can assist in preventing casualties and can make officials aware of the weapons present. If the goal is to ensure children's safety, maybe they are worth it. At the very least, it's a start.

Do you think metal detectors prevent school violence? Should they be utilized more?

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AFMI

abroad. It is a testimony of the program's success that it is being held continuously for the past twenty-eight years and AFMI's message of educational empowerment strikes a chord with youth in far-flung places across India.

AFMI's prestigious Sir Syed Ahmed Khan Award for Educational Excellence was given to Mr. Nurul Islam, Founder-Secretary of Al-Ameen Mission of Kolkata. Al-Ameen Mission is credited with producing more than 2400 doctors and 2500 engineers apart from thousands of other professionals.

The main draw of the convention was the gold, silver, and bronze medals and cash awards to toppers of class X and XII board exams from each state of India. A large number of students traveled with their parents from across India to receive their awards. The students appreciated the awards and vowed to continue the path of excellence.

Dr. AS Nakadar, AFMI's founding trustee, in his remarks stated that the AFMI's flagship awards program has a multiplying effect on young students and continues to be a source of inspiration for them in their quest for excellence. He stated that in education lies their salvation and that an educationally empowered community is vital for India's progress.

Mateen of Karnataka received the gold medal for achieving 98.72% in the SSC board exams.

The convention, held at the spacious Railway Auditorium of Bhubaneswar, featured interactive sessions on educational challenges and opportunities for students in both India and abroad. Dr. Aslam Abdullah masterfully moderated the sessions.

Renowned journalist Arfa Khanum Sherwani spoke on the important historical moment that India is currently going through which is inspired and led by youth and especially women. She expressed hope that this will mark a new begin-



Mateen of Karnataka received the gold medal for achieving 98.72% in the SSC board exams.



The souvenir being released at the convention.

ning in the community and the nation.

Mr. Abdul Rahman, who recently resigned from the Indian Police Service in protest of the Citizenship Amendment Act, also spoke at the convention. He called the CAA as discriminatory and unconstitutional.

Mr. Syed Tanwir, a convener of the convention, thanked AFMI for holding the convention in Odisha and said that such a gathering was held for the first time in the state's history. He hoped that AFMI will continue to organize regional conventions in the state of Odisha in the future.

Mr. Siraj Thakore, AFMI's current president, encouraged the

students to continue their competitive spirit. He also touched on the educational opportunities available in Canada.

The souvenir being released at the convention.

Dr. Akber Mohammed (Springfield, Ohio), AFMI's incoming president, urged the students to face challenges fearlessly and gave many examples from the history of people who overcame all odds to succeed. He gave his own example of how he grew up in a small town in Telangana and had to carry water home from a communal tap. Through dint of hard work and focus, he was able to complete his medical studies and did a fellowship at Harvard Medical School. He is

now a successful cardiologist in Springfield, Ohio.

Dr. Hussain Nagamia (Tampa, Florida) in his presentation talked about the glorious heritage of Muslims in the advancement of medicine.

A session completely dedicated to former awardees was a big draw in which they shared their experiences and career paths. The youthful speakers in this session included: Abdul Hai Hazari (Pennsylvania), Dr. Nabeel A.K., Dr. Ibtisam Sahin, and Ms. Saba Anjum.

Other speakers included Mr. Ali Quraishi (New Mexico, USA), Mr. Mohammed Afroz (Toronto, Canada), Mr. Suhel Tirmizi (Editor, Gujarat

Today), Mr. Mohammed Ayub Khan (Former Member of the Odisha Legislative Assembly), Mrs. Qamar Sultana Begum (Secretary of All Orissa Muslim Women's Welfare Federation), Mr. Mamoon Akhtar (Samaritan Help Mission), Dr. Fakhruddin Mohammed (Secretary, MESCO), Mrs. Manduha Majid (Member, All India Muslim Personal Law Board), among others.

Dr. Nakadar announced that next year's convention will be held in Ahmedabad.

In addition to the International Conventions, regional conventions were also held in Ranchi, Delhi, and Mewat.

(Dis)integrating Muslims, Dismantling India

This article was originally published on The Diplomat, read it here.

India, where Muslims have been at home for more than a millennium, is trying its hardest to alienate, disenfranchise, and disintegrate them.

By Muqtadar Khan

From Europe to Australia, not just countries but entire continents are struggling to integrate their growing Muslim populations. Religious, cultural, and particularly political differences with Muslim minorities have posed serious challenges to many Western nations. They struggle to integrate Muslims into the local sociocultural milieu. Even in Asia, where Islam has deeper roots, China is unable to deal with its Uyghur Muslim population in a civilized way.

But astonishingly, one country where Muslims have been at home for more than a millennium and are seamlessly integrated – India – is trying its hardest to alienate, disenfranchise, and essentially disintegrate them.

Nearly 15 percent of the Indian population, about 180 million people, are Muslims. India is the biggest democracy in the world, and Indian Muslims are the biggest religious minority in the world. After the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, we witnessed a spike in radicalization of Muslims in Europe and the Middle East, and thousands went to Iraq to participate in a “jihad” against the West. This radicalization continued with the emergence of the Islamic State in 2014, attracting recruits even from tiny nations like Finland and Trinidad. The contribution of Indian Muslims to terrorist movements like al-Qaeda, Islamic State, and the Taliban, relatively speaking was next to nothing. The Economist attributed this moderation to integration with Hindus, India’s secular constitution, and the impact of Sufism.

This profound moderation of Indian Muslims, who have often them-



selves been victims of religious violence, is one of the least studied and unappreciated elements of the prolific global discourse on jihadism. India’s democratic and pluralistic ethos, long history of interfaith relations, emergence of a syncretic culture, evolution of shared mystical practices, and common linguistic, musical, and ritual traditions are at the root of mutual Muslim and Hindu acceptance. India’s history is replete with religious syncretism. Mughal Emperor Akbar and his descendant Dara Shikoh sowed the seeds for Hindu-Muslim unity in India. Many others have continued with that

tradition. Saints like Kabir, Guru Nanak, and Sai Baba embraced all faith traditions and were revered by all. Religious integration is an evolutionary process and India has been at it for centuries.

Indians of all faiths also have the same passions — music, Bollywood, biryani, tea, samosas, and cricket. For a country that boasts of tremendous diversity in languages, religions, and ethnicities, India does have a core culture. That core culture is infused with Muslim content and has shaped Muslim consciousness in India. This shared core culture is priceless. It is the basis of India’s social

fabric that underpins its national identity and integrity. This is what other nations aspire for through their “outreach” programs and efforts at integration of Muslims. India has what the West desires: a culture that integrates and weaves disparate religious communities together into one people. Yes, there are occasional riots and politicization of faith, but religious harmony in India has proven to be resilient in spite of episodic communalism. It was on display during the recent protests against the current government’s divisive citizenship policies.

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Nevertheless, it appears that the Hindutva movement and the Narendra Modi government are determined to disintegrate Muslims and destroy the communal bonds that hold the nation together. In an effort to create an exclusivist Hindu Rashtra (state) out of a multifaith populace, the Indian government is trying to both erase and disenfranchise Muslims. We are moving from episodic communalism to state-sponsored Islamophobia under Modi and the BJP.

First, the government undemocratically eliminated the statehood of Kashmir, the only Muslim majority state in India. The citizens there were never consulted and a lockdown was imposed, political leaders were detained, and the internet has been shut down for months, and still is except for some businesses. The human rights situation is horrendous, and the entire Muslim population in Kashmir is veritably under military occupation.

Then the land on which Babri Mosque stood for over 400 years was granted to Hindus to

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Asian Representation in the Presidential Election

By TMO Staff

Andrew Yang is the only Asian running for President of the United States out of the two majority parties. He is running as a Democrat that promised the nation that every adult American will receive \$1,000 a month, as part of his universal income to help people with low incomes.

Yang has had a popular presence online and at rallies, but for many months he was not pictured with the other democratic candidates and often was given other names, even though his name is easy to remember. He used his social media presence to call out MSNBC, in tweets he stated, "They've omitted me from their graphics 12+ times, called me John Yang on air, and given me a fraction of the speaking time over 2 debates despite my polling higher than other candidates on stage. At some point you have to call it,".

They've omitted me from their graphics 12+ times, called me John Yang on air, and given me a fraction of the speaking time over 2 debates despite my polling higher than other candidates on stage. At some point you have to call it.



— Andrew Yang? (@AndrewYang) November 23, 2019

One news platform came underfired after the hashtag #BoycottMSNBC started to trend in November. People criticized MSNBC for leaving Yang off of several election graphics and giving him less speaking time than other democratic candidates during public debates. Yang demanded an apology from MSNBC because the other candidates in this election have not had to experience lack of representation like this.

MSNBC issued a correction on-air and on twitter regarding Yang being left off of election graphics on Nov. 17..

However, Yang continues to bring up the issues he has been facing in his campaign. Yang also made an appearance on Netflix's Patriot Act and sat down for an interview with Hasan Minhaj to discuss the issue of Asian representation in the news media. During the interview with Minhaj, Yang described how it was unfair that his name is constantly forgotten or given the wrong name, despite the fact that his poll numbers are increasing. He stated that it would be unimaginable if someone gave former Vice President Joe Biden or Senator Elizabeth Warren the wrong name on the news.

The problems that Yang has been facing during

his campaign for President are reminiscent of the problems Asians have to face during election years. By Asian, we mean anyone of descendent from the continent of Asia, whether it be East, South, South East or Central Asia. American Asians, including all ethnicities in the continent of Asia, are the fastest growing voting constituency in the United States. As more Asian Americans voted in elections, districts and states that have been traditionally held by conservatives/republicans, are flipped to progressive/democratic candidates. Even though American Asians do have the power to influence elections, just

like everyone else, they do not receive the same type of attention from politicians. It has been common for politicians to reach out to several ethnicities and minorities. Political campaigns always talk about getting the "Black vote" or the "Hispanic vote", which is good because everyone deserves to be heard, but political campaigns overlook other groups when they're attempting to get one group to vote for them. This might be one of the root causes of why issues pertaining to Asian Americans are not discussed or solved by politicians.

Health and Wellbeing: Adequate Water

by Khalid Rizvi

The fact is that living things cannot survive without water, meaning neither can humans.

Water makes up 50%-70% of our body weight.

It is essential for the metabolic process as dehydration hampers the whole body's normal function.

The groundbreaking book of Dr.F. Batmanghelidj, "Your Body's Many Cries for Water" has been translated into 15 languages and continues to inspire readers all over the world.

It's important to note the basic message of the author, "You are not sick, you are thirsty don't treat thirst with medication" and Water cures:



Drug kills.

It's a fact that over 70% of the earth's surface is water. However 98% is saltwater whereas 2% is fresh water for drinking- which is trapped in

frozen glaciers.

The human body requires 75% water for our muscles to move our body while our blood consists of 82% of water to transport nutrients,

lungs that provide oxygen are 90% water, brain is 76% water, even bones are 25% water.

Therefore, dehydration can cause pain and many

degenerative diseases, including asthma, arthritis, hypertension, angina, diabetes, lupus and multiple sclerosis.

It's all about drought management and the solution is to drink two to three-quarters of quality water daily.

Remember: it's a free investment for long time benefits.

—
This article will be a part of a weekly series on health and wellbeing. This is the second of eight.

Khalid Javed Rizvi, a certified nutritionist and also served nine years as a General Manager of Health & Safety in a multinational firm.

The Geopolitics of Yemen's Civil War



This post was originally published by the Center for Global Policy

by CGP Staff

This report provides a brief explanation of Yemen's decline into a chaotic and multidimensional conflict involving multiple civil wars within a larger war, with analysis of major developments in Yemen's history post-1990. Two centers of gravity in the Yemeni crisis — the struggle for Aden and other parts of southern Yemen between the U.N.-respected government and southern secessionists, and the fighting between the al-Houthi rebels and the Saudi military — are the main focus of this brief. Ultimately, this report argues that despite Washington's commitment to the parties fighting to preserve Yemen's post-1990 unity, the odds are dim that this political entity, at least established on paper, can

solidify again, given how shattered it has become. This brief ends with policy proposals to consider as outside powers continue working to end the Yemeni conflict.

The main takeaways are:

-More than 85,000 Yemeni children died of starvation between April 2015 and October 2018. The weaponization of famine has been a reality in Yemen, with various actors on different sides of the multifaceted civil war depriving specific civilian population segments and pockets access to food and medical services in order to achieve their own political objectives.

-The chaos has spread beyond Yemen's borders in two relatively small, but significant, migrant flows. Violence and refugees have spilled into Saudi Arabia and the Horn of Africa. The crisis in Yemen has reversed refugee flows and is driv-

ing instability in these countries that are impoverished and grappling with their own internal political conflicts.

-The only chances Yemen has for peace will come in a political settlement created through dialogue, not continued warfare. Resolving Yemen's multi-sided civil war will require compromise and trust-building initiatives on the part of all major actors in the conflict, including internal and external parties: GCC member states, the United States, Iran, Russia, and the European Union. China, too, is increasing its strategic interests.

-A common narrative from Southern Transitional Council officials and supporters is that the Hadi government is filled with al-Islah "terrorists." Specifically, they say, the Muslim Brotherhood has infiltrated Hadi's Presidential Guard and other bodies within his admin-

istration.

-Countless observers mistakenly oversimplified the Yemeni crisis as a conflict between al-Houthi fighters and Saudi Arabia while overlooking many other moving parts in Yemen's convoluted and tortuous conflict.

-Yemen is a critical battlespace in which intra-Sunni differences are allowing Iran and the al-Houthi rebels to further weaken their opponents. At the same time, Riyadh has a stake in defending the legitimacy of Hadi's government and preserving the war-torn country's north-south unity.

-Yet Yemen is not a top priority for Iran. The outcome of conflicts and local tensions in Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq are of far greater importance to the Islamic Republic as the system of confessionalism undergoes its ultimate challenge from a Levantine populace

tired of Tehran's influence.

-The Kremlin's interest in constructing a military base plus sea access in southern Yemen is an important driver of Moscow's Yemen policy.

-The aftermath of the strikes on Saudi Arabia's Aramco facilities on Sept. 14, and the al-Houthi actions afterward, are driving Riyadh's attempts to reach a settlement with the rebels.

-Although the UAE's support for the STC is wavering because of emerging disagreements among senior Emirati leaders, Abu Dhabi's desire to ease tensions appears to have surpassed the idea of pushing for an independent southern Yemen for now.

Click here to access the full policy brief

Cont. from page 8. Diintegrating Muslims

build a temple even after the Supreme Court determined that no Hindu temple was destroyed to build the mosque and the demolition of the mosque in 1986 was a criminal act. Hindutva vandalism was rewarded by the highest court of the land as it privileged religious beliefs over laws. Until this decision, Indian Muslims had faith in the

Indian judicial system. Now along with the legislature and law enforcement agencies, the judiciary too has become communal.

The most debilitating blow to India's founding secular character has been dealt through the Citizen Amendment Act and the so-called National Register of Citizens. These two legal policy initiatives are institutionalizing discrimination on the basis

of religion. They raise the specter of systematic disenfranchisement of Muslims, triggering fears of rendering millions of them stateless. The NRC could make millions of Muslims refugees in their own homes.

Much like Islamists who have tried to create Islamic states in nations like Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iran, Hindu nationalists too are trying to create a Hindu state in India. But their

strategy of disintegrating Muslims is also dismantling the secular and democratic basis of India. A Hindu Rashtra may or may not emerge in the future, but in the present Hindu nationalists are taking a wrecking ball to everything that made India a pluralistic, diverse, and vibrant civilization. The Hindutva vision may or may not conjure a new India, but it sure is the enemy of India as it is today. Hindutva is

determined to dismantle pluralistic India one precious value at a time.

Dr. Muqtadar Khan is a professor at the University of Delaware and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Policy. He is originally from Hyderabad, India and the author of a new book *Islam and Good Governance: A Political Philosophy of Ihsan* and tweets at @MuqtadarKhan.

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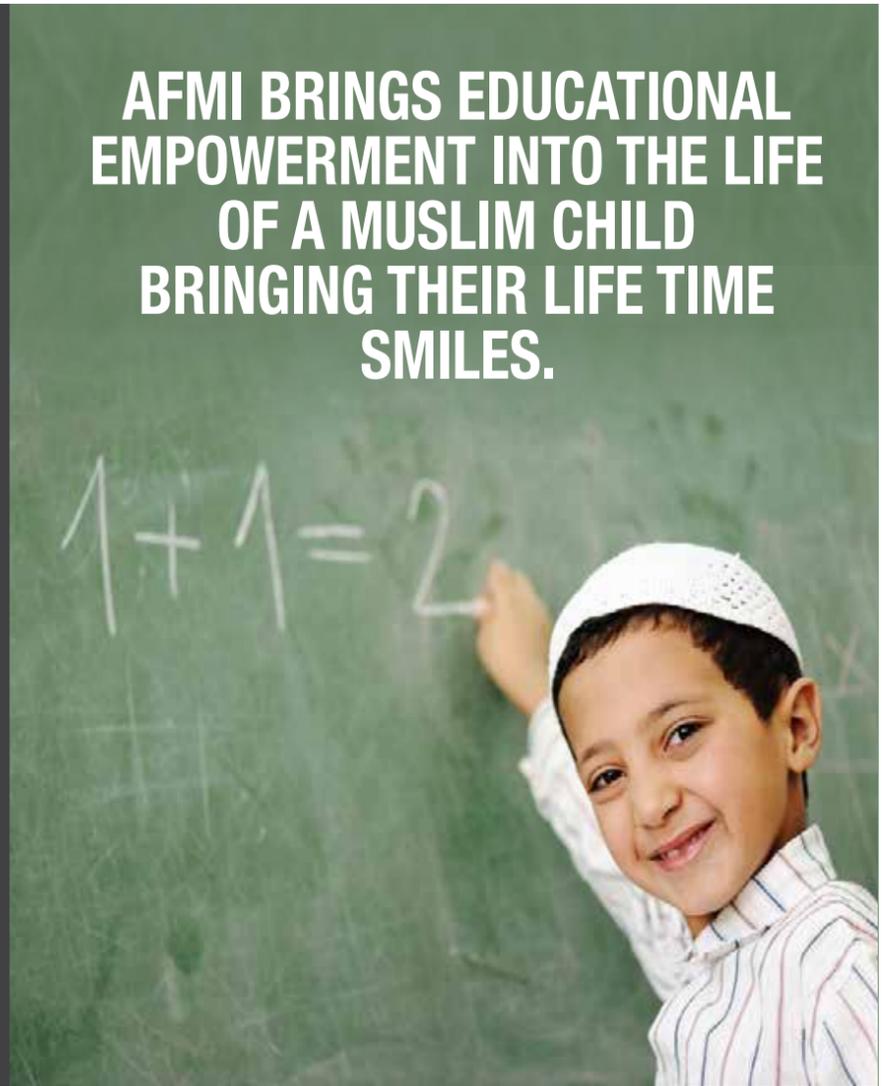


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**Cont. from page 1.
Trump**

Obstruction of Congress due to the fact that President Trump instructed federal employees from responding to the subpoenas by the House during the impeachment inquiry. In the second article, it states that “through these actions, President Trump sought to arrogate to himself the right to determine the propriety, scope, and nature of an impeachment inquiry into his own conduct, as well as the unilateral prerogative to deny any and all information to the House of Representatives in the exercise of its “sole Power of Impeachment”. In the history of the Republic, no President has ever ordered the complete defiance of an impeachment inquiry or sought to obstruct and impede so comprehensively the

ability of the House of Representatives to investigate “high Crimes and Misdemeanors”.”

The speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, made it clear to members of the house and to the public that this was very saddening news that she did not look forward to doing. Most Democrats and Republicans voted along their party lines. However, Tulsi Gabbard decided to vote present in a roll call vote. Seeing that Speaker Pelosi was trying her best to make the vote on impeachment a non-partisan vote, Gabbard’s action was frowned up. Gabbard claims that she could not vote in good conscience on impeachment, but almost all members of the House have made it clear on where they stand with impeachment.

The White House released a statement called

the impeachment “one of the most shameful political episodes” in the history of the country.

Now that the impeachment process has actually started, many Americans have questions on what’s next.

Impeachment does not mean removal from office or position. President Trump is still the president of the United States. He will remain, president, until the Senate decides to go forward with the impeachment articles. The Senate has to vote on whether or not they believe an impeachment trial should be held. If they vote no to an impeachment trial, President Trump remains in office till he is voted out of office. If the Senate voted yes to a trial then President Trump must stand trial in front of the senate. If the trial does occur and all evidence

to support the articles have been presented, the senate votes again. They vote on if the president should be officially removed from office or he can remain in office. Which would eventually lead Vice President, Mike Pence, to be the next president of the United States.

The process can be long and rigorous, especially if there are politicians in the senate that do not accept the articles of impeachment as legitimate. Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell has supported President Trump throughout his presidency. Many Republicans in the senate fall in line behind McConnell saying that they have already decided on how they’re going to vote. This brings up the importance of why the midterm elections in 2018 were so important.

If more Democrats were elected to the senate then removing President Trump from office would have been a lot easier for the Democrats.

There is still a chance to change the minds of some Republican senators. There are a few that are in the middle or are unsure of the president’s actions so they might vote to hold the trial to see all the evidence before them. Also, the American people have a very strong position in this. Calling, writing and meeting with senators to convince them to view the impeachment objectively and not as a bipartisan could be beneficial. It could lead to senators voting with what they think follows the constitution best rather than voting based on what their political party thinks.

**Cont. from page 4.
Emergency Meeting**

asked ourselves how we let the Holocaust take place yet we do not pay heed to the rising discriminatory pillars in society around us. In 2002 alone, more than a thousand Muslims were killed in the Gujarat riots under Modi’s rule as Chief Minister of the state. In August 2019, Kashmir was placed in Lockdown by Prime Minister Modi. This lockdown, which is still in effect today, entails curfews, internet bans, and the Indian army patrolling the streets.

This is not as far-fetched of fear as it might seem. As of December 22, 2019, 600 people have been put into detention camps, 28 have even been killed, and camps for 2 million more have been built or are under construction. Families have been separated — kids have been ripped from their mothers’ arms. Kept under the radar by Prime Minister himself, these camps have been in effect for the past few months. Modi has denied these

claims but members of the opposition in the Indian Parliament have openly confirmed the existence of these camps.

Aside from this, the citizenship bill affects everyone living in India. This concept of being declared illegal has brought thousands of people to the streets, protesting against the NRC. United as one, the people of India are leaving long-held discriminatory beliefs behind to fight along Muslims for their inalienable rights for citizenship and freedom.

These protests are calling for a decision to revoke both CAB and NRC. With thousands of people gathering in all parts of India, protests have turned violent as policemen fire both bullets and tear gas into crowds. Protesters have been thrashed by batons as well as arrested on false charges. The police barged into university campuses and beat the students of Jamia Millia and Aligarh Muslim University. Teargas was fired on students peacefully studying inside the college libraries. Stu-

dents have been brutally beaten, bruised, battered, and broken by the police. Many have ended up in hospitals with lethal injuries. The force that is supposed to protect the people is doing the complete opposite. Despite these dangerous conditions, students continue to fearlessly protest against the citizenship amendment bill (CAB) and have become the group leading these nationwide protests.

The emergency meeting held by CAPI addressed this troublesome situation rising in India. Those who attended the meeting contributed what they could to pave the path to peace. All attendees pitched in ideas and solutions to the ongoing problem. They then proceeded to draft solutions and a plan of action to stand side by side with those suffering in India. Involving different demographics and spreading awareness were two major points that were thoroughly discussed during this emergency meeting. Additional protests are being planned to show

support and stand in solidarity with those who are being oppressed and harmed in India.

We need to come together and fight as a united group against this injustice just as many are doing all around the world. This movement is clearly not going away anytime soon. It goes beyond this bill. Many existing scars have been ripped open and are not going to close in the blink of an eye. We need to stand with those being oppressed. This is not a domestic matter – it’s a matter of basic human rights. Human rights need to be protected for the sake of humanity. The story of the Holocaust did not end when it was defeated or when the Jews were liberated. This story lives on to show the mistakes that have been made. It is a reminder that it is necessary for protecting basic human rights.

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**Cont. from page 1.
Reject CAB**

ship, this new one does and recognizes Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians who came to India from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan before 2015, but not Muslims.

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approximately 200 million Muslims in India have faced a variety of threats as worry engulfs the nation since the passing of CAB.

The exclusion of Muslims from the bill has raised a concern about the bill's constitutionality and growing Islamophobia in the country, however, according to Modi and BJP party members, Muslims were excluded because they are not minorities in India's neighboring countries.

The argument that this bill is discriminatory cannot apply as the issue is not about the Indian citizens," BJP spokesperson Nalin Kohli told Al Jazeera. "The Bill is for Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian minority communities who because of partition could not come to India and suffered persecution in their own countries."

"Regarding Muslims, there are countries that were formed exclusively for them," he said.

Opposition parties believe the law is discriminatory as it singles out Muslims in an officially secular nation of 1.3 billion people, according to Al Jazeera. It is also being compared to President Trump's Muslim ban under which Mus-

lims from specific countries were banned from seeking asylum. According to legal experts, CAB violates Article 14 of the Indian constitution, which guarantees the right to equality.

Protests against CAB increase day by day, within the last two days, more than 100 students have been injured after police stormed into New Delhi's Jamia Millia Islamia and Aligarh Muslim University using "maximum force."

**Narendra Modi
?@narendramodi**

Violent protests on the Citizenship Amendment Act are unfortunate and deeply distressing.

Debate, discussion and dissent are essential parts of democracy but, never has damage to public property and disturbance of normal life

been a part of our ethos. A doctor at Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital told The Washington Post, that at least two male demonstrators were brought in with bullet wounds on Sunday. A video of Jamia Millia Islamia women who stood up to Delhi police is going viral as protests escalate. The women, all in their early 20s and students at the university were among the thousands of demonstrating participants.

**Natasha Badhwar@
natashabadhwar**

How to rescue a victim during a #lynching incident.

Real life demo by women students of #Jamia

Even more gruesome protests have been ongoing in Assam and Tripura since the bill was passed into law. Internet access has been caught off and

a large military presence has deployed to the region. According to CNN, hundreds of people joined a hunger strike demanding the bill's withdrawal on Friday.

With the exclusion of Muslims from CAB comes the fear of Muslims ending up in massive detention camps. In Assam, those whose names do not appear in the National Register of Citizens of India (NRC) have been told they must provide proof they are citizens. Among most of these rural residents are those who do not have any paperwork including birth certificates. A quarter of Assam is illiterate, Vox reports. Residents of Assam may be left stateless due to a lack of paperwork to prove their citizenship and the exclusion of Muslims from CAB. While residents will have the chance to submit appeals, if reject-

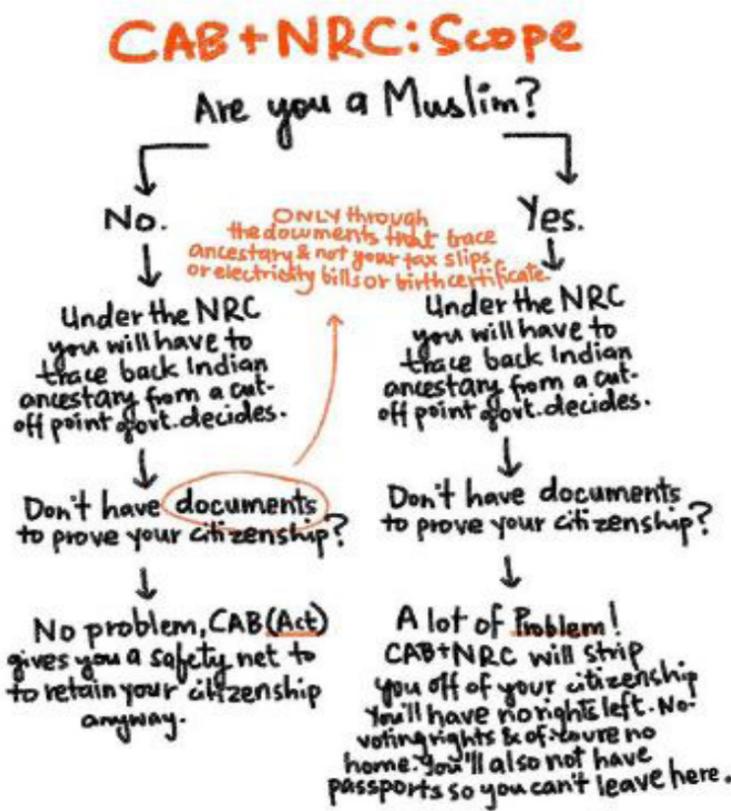
ed they may also be sent to one of the 10 mass detention camps the government plans to build.

The first camp, where even children will be held, is currently under construction, Reuters reports. "Children lodged in detention centers are to be provided educational facilities in nearby local schools," an Indian official said.

The move seems to be part of a Hindu supremacist agenda to displace Muslims as stateless people, who will ultimately have nowhere to go. Many neighboring countries including Bangladesh have already said it will not take immigrants.

Multiple petitions have been filed against the law in India's Supreme Court.

This was first posted on Brown Girl Magazine.com



**Cont. from page 2.
Oregon woman**

what's happening across the country." CAIR chapters across the country compile data on hate crimes reported against Muslims.

Muslim women who wear a hijab, called "hijabis," are more targeted in bias crimes due to their appearance. Discrimination against Muslim women occurs across the country each day, through not only physical hate crimes but also verbal abuse and bias in everyday activities. Hijabis are often prohib-

ited from participating in various activities due to their chosen attire and appearance. Although it is a violation of their civil rights, according to the American Civil Liberties Union, Muslim women have been denied the right to wear a hijab or headscarf in various occupations and have been prevented from wearing it during school activities. In a fact sheet detailing discrimination against Muslim women, the ACLU said:

Teachers in public school have been prevented from wearing religious garb, a bar that has been

authorized by some state statutes and upheld by some courts. Students also have been denied the right to wear hijab to school and have been prevented from participating in extracurricular activities, including musical concerts and athletic events.

The civil rights organization also noted that Muslim women and girls have been denied access to public buildings unless they agree to be searched by male guards or remove their hijabs and other religious attire. While many of these incidents go unreported due

to fear and stigma, some have made headlines, with victims reporting them in hopes of creating more awareness. In 2017, a high school student took to social media to share that her teacher had pulled her hijab off in front of students while she was talking to a friend. "So my hijab was ripped off my head today," she tweeted, according to NBC. Other students shared their experiences online as well. Last month, Daily Kos reported on an incident of discrimination against a Muslim woman in which a Southwest

Airlines flight attendant allegedly threatened to throw a hijabi off a plane because passengers felt "uncomfortable." This incident was also shared through social media and drew national attention.

According to the ACLU, an "expert has found that Muslim women who wear headscarves are more likely than those who do not to face discrimination: 69% of women who wore hijab reported at least one incident of discrimination compared to 29% of women who did not wear hijab."

This article was first published on Daily Kos.



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Cont from page 4.
Next Breeding Ground
 determined to build a Hindu Rashtra (State), which would provide privileges to Hindus and demonize and disenfranchise religious minorities—Muslims in particular. A series of political and legal machinations are tearing at India’s secular fabric. There has been the undemocratic revocation of the constitutional conditions of Kashmir’s accession to India (articles 370 and 35 A), grant-

ing of the land on which Babri Masjid stood for over four hundred years to Hindus to build a temple, and now the passing of the Citizenship Amendment Act. This act in conjunction with a proposed National Registry of Citizens threatens to disenfranchise Muslims and maybe even send millions of them into detention camps. All of these policies indicate state malice against the Muslim minority. The way India has clamped down on Kash-

mir, the only Muslim majority state of India since August and the systematic violation of human rights there and across the country can only be described as state-sponsored Islamophobia. These communal and undemocratic policies backed by military and police brutality undermine the civic pillars of India’s rise. Watching this drastic political reality unfold is like watching a magnificent tower implode. The United States Must

Intervene Now
 The United States was grooming India to become its partner in maintaining the global liberal order in South and East Asia and in facing the challenge of China. With India’s rapid degradation, both as a democracy and as an expanding economy, can India still be a reliable or worthwhile partner? Sustained human-rights violations in India will make it very difficult for the United States to treat India as a friend and ally. At the minimum, there will have to be criticism from both the congress and the White House and there are already demands for sanctions from the global civil society.

The United States’ future withdrawal from Afghanistan also depends on a potentially responsible and stabilizing role of India. But now that seems very remote.

The U.S.-UK invasion of Iraq in 2003 gave a tremendous boost to radicalism and terrorism across the world rose ex-

ponentially. The current military occupation and lockdown of Kashmir could also have the same radicalizing effect. The United States is tired of the war on terror and India’s desire to become a Hindu state may potentially extend that war both in intensity and duration.

India’s communal domestic policies present a new headache for American foreign policy. India is morphing from a potential ally and partner into a liability. For the sake of U.S.-India relations, the United States must intervene now. The United States must counsel New Delhi to help bring some sanity and course-correction.

Dr. Muqtedar Khan is a professor at the University of Delaware and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Policy. He is the Academic Director of the State Department’s American Foreign Policy Institute. He is the author of a new book Islam and Good Governance: A Political Philosophy of Ihsan and tweets at @MuqtedarKhan.



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