

# Revealed: How Muslim Politicians And Clerics Tried To Islamise Government Schools And Propagate Islam In Jharkhand

*From the Indian magazine [Swarajya](#). Not dis-similar to the [‘Trojan Horse’](#) manoeuver in [Birmingham](#) a few years ago.*

Muslim politicians and Islamist clerics of Jharkhand forced government schools in many parts of the state to adopt Islamist practices as per the ‘Sharia’.

These practices include observing Fridays as the weekly offs, affixing or suffixing the names of the schools with ‘Urdu’ and forcing students, including Hindu students, to pray with cupped palms facing upwards like Muslims do!

According to the Jharkhand government’s own admission, ‘Urdu’ was added to names of 407 government schools across the state, while 509 government schools were forced to change their weekly offs from Sunday to Friday.

Even schools in Hindu majority areas were forced to follow these Islamist practices. It is learnt that local-level Muslim politicians, including those belonging to the Congress and some of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) as well as the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), and Islamist clerics close to politicians of the ruling JMM-Congress-RJD coalition, forced authorities of all these schools to adopt these practices.

This huge ‘Islamisation’ drive was exposed last month after a Hindi newspaper revealed the change of names of schools and the weekly-offs in Muslim-dominated areas of Jamtara district

of the state. . . The survey's findings were shocking.

... the state government has asked deputy commissioners (district magistrates) of all districts to take corrective measures and fix accountability for the violations.

In its reply to Ojha, the state government said that the original names of 350 schools (of the 407 schools forced to undergo name change) have been restored with the removal of the word 'Urdu'. Also, Sunday has been restored as the weekly off in 459 (of the 509) government schools.

State Parliamentary Affairs Minister Alamgir Alam assured agitated BJP members that the names and weekly-offs of the rest of the schools that were altered will be restored very soon.

State Parliamentary Affairs Minister Alamgir Alam...replying on behalf of Education Minister Jagarnath Mahato who is ill, said that the deputy commissioners have also been asked to fix responsibility and penalise officials who were responsible for these alterations without informing the school education department.

The unabashed and determined manner in which the Muslim politicians and clerics pushed their agenda to Islamise all government schools in the state is evident from the fact that the largest number of these changes of names and weekly-offs happened in Deoghar district.

This happened despite the fact that Hindus form an overwhelming majority (more than 94 per cent) of the population of the district.

"It is shocking that many government schools even in Deoghar were forced to change their names and add the word 'Urdu' to them. They were forced to have Fridays as their weekly off and in many schools, rabid Islamist clerics were found to be distributing Islamic literature to school students," senior

BJP leader Om Narain Mishra told *Swarajya*.

In many of these schools, it was found that even Hindu children were being asked to pray with cupped palms facing upwards (instead of joining palms like Hindus do) as is the practice in Islam during their daily prayers in the morning assembly sessions.

What's more, Islamist preachers are learnt to have been frequenting these government schools, distributing Islamic literature and even preaching Islam. These clerics, say BJP leaders, had started denigrating Hindu deities and practices and were learnt to be encouraging students to start following Islamic practices and rituals!

"Politicians belonging to the three ruling parties and Islamist clerics they patronised started implementing their sinister agenda soon after the JMM-led government came to power. And they have only got bolder. The government knew about this all along and turned a blind eye only because the targets of these Islamists are Hindus," said Mishra.

"It seemed they were following a master plan to convert young boys and girls to Islam and spread Islamist and *jihadi* philosophy and practices. But these Islamists did not target schools which had a considerable number of Christian students. This exposes the malevolent agenda of these Muslim politicians and clerics who were carrying out their activities under the nose of the JMM-Congress-RJD government,"

But what is more important is to put in place a system of checks to pre-empt recurrence of such incidents. Arresting the Islamists who committed these pernicious acts and booking them under the UAPA, as the BJP is demanding, would act as a strong deterrent.

This sinister development comes close in the heels of the discovery of similar practices by government schools in Bihar.