'Trojan Horse' plotters dodge teaching ban

From <u>Mail on Sunday</u>

Two teachers banned from teaching after being named as ringleaders in the 'Trojan horse' education scandal have returned to the classroom. Tahir Alam and Razwan Faraz were part of the 'Park View Brotherhood' of teachers, which exchanged some 3,000 messages in a WhatsApp group, including offensive comments about British soldiers, the Boston Marathon bombings and the murder of soldier Lee Rigby.

Mr Faraz, a former deputy headteacher of the Trojan-horse linked Nansen Primary School, is under an interim teaching ban, while Mr Alam was banned from any involvement with schools by the Department for Education (DfE). However it has now been revealed Mr Faraz has been running classes under a different name, and Mr Alam has been teaching children in informal classes.

According to the Times, Mr Alam also allegedly continues to express extremist views on social media and has been teaching children in informal classes at the Khidmat Centre in Birmingham. He told the paper: 'I am absolutely suitable for teaching any children, I have done absolutely nothing wrong.'

However, The Sunday Times has established that Alam has also recently expressed extremist views on Facebook. He described the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center as the "controlled demolition of three buildings". He has also promoted a YouTube video claiming that "Zionist neocons" have bribed the farright British National Party to "ignore Jew paper money and attack Islam". Alam stated: "He who pays the piper calls the tune. Revealing!"

Faraz, deputy head of one of the Trojan Horse schools and the

brother of a convicted terrorist, was a key figure in the "Park View brotherhood" of teachers, a group on the messaging tool WhatsApp who expressed grossly bigoted and extremist views. Faraz described gay people as "satanic" and "animals", and said women's place was "in the kitchen . . . a perpetual role serving men". He described Muslims who raised money for the military charity Help for Heroes as "Uncle Toms".

However, The Sunday Times has established that Faraz has set up a Facebook account under a false name, Riz Pilgrim, in which he continues to express extreme views.

In a post on the day of the Nice terrorist attack, which killed 86 people, Faraz attacked as "idiots" those who expressed solidarity with the victims, saying they were privileging "white suffering" and condoning French colonialism.

In a later post he attacked those who expressed solidarity with the victims of the attack on the magazine Charlie Hebdo. "Those who did write 'Je suis Charlie' can go hang their heads in shame," he wrote. "Or maybe you are just a secret self-hating Nazi!"

Under his pseudonym, Faraz has also been running £14-a-head classes in "raising emotionally intelligent boys", most recently in Halifax, West Yorkshire, on November 13.

A third figure who helped run a Trojan Horse school, Mohammed Ashraf, has become secretary of a local constituency Labour Party. He has applied to be a Labour council candidate at the next local elections, but claimed last night he had dropped the application. Ashraf was a governor at Golden Hillock School, which banned the teaching of some subjects and segregated boys and girls. He was later removed from the post.

It can also be revealed that one of the Trojan Horse schools, Park View, had far closer connections than have previously been reported with Rasheed Benyahia, a 19-year-old who died fighting for Isis in Syria. It is known that Benyahia's

mother, Nicola, was a governor at the school. However, it can also be revealed he was a pupil there — and his father, Mustapha, was a teaching assistant. Mustapha's mobile number appears on the Park View brotherhood WhatsApp group. He said it had been added by someone else...