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Four-party alliance alleges Govt hatching conspiracy against Madrasah edn

Staff Correspondent

Leaders of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) strongly criticised the government for what they said hatching conspiracy against Madrasah education and warned it that BNP would launch a tough movement against the government to protect Islam.

Addressing a rally at Paltan Maidan on Friday the BNP leaders alleged that Awami League had tried to ban Madrasah education after the liberation and it now started conspiracy again to destroy Islam.

Dhaka City unit of BNP organised the rally as part of the four-party alliance's nationwide demonstration programme. Presided over by Dhaka City BNP convener Sadek Hossain Khoka, the rally was addressed, among others, by Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Abdullah Al Noman, Mashihur Rahman and Joynal Abedin Farooq and former army Chief Lt. Gen. (Retd) Mahbubur Rahman.

The four-party alliance took up the demonstration programme to protest what they said dishonouring the holy Quran, government conspiracy to ban Madrasah education and filing "false cases" against leaders of BNP and other opposition parties.

The BNP leaders alleged that the government was conspiring to destroy Islam and for this reason it was trying to close Madrasahs. Referring to the incident of abandoning the holy Quran at a dustbin, they said that it indicated that the Awami League government was serving the interest of its masters who had helped it to come to power.

They said that the Awami League government had hurt the sentiment of the people who, they said, wanted to sacrifice their lives and take part in holy war to protect Islam and the Quran.

They said that a holy war (Jihad) would have to be announced against the government if conspiracies against Islam were not stopped.

Three ward commissioners of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC)

belonging to BNP, whose moveable property were confiscated by police recently in connection with the police constable Farhad murder case, spoke at the rally narrating their plight of harassment. The ward commissioners are Kazi Abul Bashar, Chowdhury Alam and Arifur Rahman.

City unit of Jatiya Party also held a protest rally at the premises of Hazrat Shah Ali (RM) Mazar mosque, Mirpur after Juma prayer on Friday.

Jatiya Party Presidium member and city unit chief Saifur Rahman presided over the rally and it was addressed, among others, by Jatiya Ulema Party chief Maulana Anisur Rahman, JP Joint Secretary General Delwar Hossain, Jahangir Mahmood, Anisur Rahman Khokan, Sultan Ahmed and Quamrul Islam.

As part of the programme Jamaat-e-Islami held a rally at the northern gate of the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque after Juma prayer. City unit Jamaat Amir ATM Azharul Islam chaired the meeting while party Secretary General Moulana Matiur Rahman Nazami, Prof. Mujibur Rahman, Advocate Jasim Uddin Sarker and Abu Taher Mohammad Shamsu addressed it.

Moulana Matiur Rahman Nazami in his speech accused the government of hatching conspiracy to close four thousand Madrasahs and warned the government that people would resist any conspiracy against Islam at any cost. He alleged that the Awami League government was conspiring to establish an undivided India as dreamt by Gandhi-Nehru and for this reason it was designing a plot to destroy Islam and the Armed forces.

Nazami called upon the people to build a united resistance against what he said government's anti-Islamic activities.

After the rally they brought out a procession and paraded different city streets including Dainik Bangla Crossing, Fakirpool, (See Page 16 Col. 2)

Govt hatching

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Naya Paltan, Kakrail and Purana Paltan Crossing.

Islami Oikya Jote (IOJ), held a rally at House Building Finance Corporation building near Purana Paltan after Juma prayer as part of the demonstration programme of the opposition parties. City unit IOJ convener Moulana Abdur Rab Yousuf chaired the meeting while Moulana Abdul Latif and Moulana Md. Tayab, among others, addressed it.

The speakers alleged that after coming to power the Awami League government was taking steps one after another against Islam because what they claimed Awami League wanted to destroy Islamic values and culture. They alleged that the government had cancelled MPO of a good number of Madrasahs. Such steps had proved that this government was conspiring to destroy Islam from the country, they further alleged.

They demanded withdrawal of the cancellation order of MPO.

They also demanded stern punitive measures against those responsible for dishonouring the holy Quran.

The local units of Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh brought out a procession from local Hatemkha crossing that paraded main thoroughfares of the city chanting slogans against the government. The procession was followed by a street corner meeting held at Sahib Bazar crossing which was addressed by Ataur Rahman, Tasnim Alam and Abu Salim.

The leaders and workers of Jatiya Party and Islami Oikya Jote also brought out separate processions and street corner meetings.