

TANZEEM-E-ISLAMI



Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

PERSPECTIVE

The official online newsletter of Tanzeem-e-Islami

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PATRON: Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami, Mohtaram Shujauddin Shaikh

'PERSPECTIVE' is a trend-setting newsletter issued by Tanzeem-e-Islami that focuses on a candid commentary on the current national and international issues, in the light of the Qur'an and the Sunnah.

A blend that gives Muslims an insight into the events of the past, those happenings at present and the Signs of things to come...

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From the Qur'an:

"And recall when We made a covenant with you and caused the Mount Sinai to tower above you [Bani Israel], (saying): "Hold fast to the Book that We have given you, and remember the directives and commandments in it, that you be pious.""

"Then you turned away from your covenant, and had it not been for Allah's grace and mercy upon you, you would have long been utter losers."

"And you know the case of those of you who broke the Sabbath, how We said to them: "Become apes, despised and hated.""

"And thus We made their end a warning for the people of their own time and for the succeeding generations, and an admonition to the God-fearing."

(Surah Al-Baqarah, Verses 63 - 66)

Selected Hadith:

It is narrated on the authority of Abu Ayyub (RA) that a man came to the Prophet (SAAW) and said: Direct me to a deed which draws me near to Paradise and takes me away from the Fire (of Hell). Upon this he (the Holy Prophet SAAW) said: You worship Allah and never associate anything with Him, establish prayer, and pay Zakat, and do good to your kin. When he turned his back, the Messenger of Allah (SAAW) remarked: If he adheres to what he has been ordered to do, he would enter Paradise.

(Sahih Muslim)

All praise is due to Allah (SWT), and peace & blessing on his noble Messengers (AS), in particular, on the last of them all the blessed Prophet Muhammad (SAAW).

Hundreds of fake news websites and NGOs linked to Indian entities were used to spread propaganda against Pakistan internationally. For years Pakistan has accused its archrival India of engaging in hybrid warfare which relies on a disinformation campaign to undermine Islamabad at international forums. Now it seems much of that is true.

The EU DisinfoLab has uncovered a network of NGOs and fake media organizations linked to India that for more than a decade have been engaged in anti-Pakistan propaganda.

"It is the largest network we have exposed," Alexandre Alaphilippe, executive director of EU DisinfoLab told the BBC after the report "Indian Chronicles" was published on Wednesday.

Brussels-based DisinfoLab is a European NGO which aims to check the disinformation targeting the European Union, its parliamentarians and policies.

In a sophisticated operation, much of which has been linked to the New Delhi-based Srivastava Group, hundreds of fake media outlets, long-dead organizations and stolen identities were used to paint Pakistan in a negative light in the EU and elsewhere, the report says.

While DisinfoLab says it has not found any connection between this campaign and the Indian state, Pakistan's foreign office came out with a strong statement.

"India not only spread disinformation but abused international institutions in its desire to malign Pakistan," it said.

The revelations could deepen tension further between the two neighbors who have fought three wars and have come close to another full-blown conflict last year.

The DisinfoLab investigation found that at least ten long-defunct NGOs and industry-related organizations were resurrected and used to lobby diplomats at international forums, especially the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC).

For instance, the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace (CDOP), an NGO that became inactive in the 1970s, was reactivated in the mid-2000s to organise events on the sidelines of UN sessions and send representatives to panel discussions. Its origin has been linked to Srivastava Group.

What will worry many in Islamabad is that the NGOs in question are UN accredited, something which makes them appear legitimate.

The groups are also responsible for putting up "Free Balochistan" posters across Geneva in 2017. Pakistan's restive Balochistan province is facing an insurgency, and India often highlights the human rights violations there to deviate attention from its own atrocities in Kashmir.

The International Club for Peace Research (ICPR), another dormant NGO that focuses on Africa, was resurrected in 2009 when it started to appear at the UNHRC sessions

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where Pakistan was targeted.

It was this so-called NGO which in 2012 issued a press release, distributed by Indian news agency DNA, demanding “enquiry into genocide in Bangladesh by Pakistani Army.”

“The (ICPR) website refers to promoting peace and to Mother Teresa in its “about us” section, lists past events and meetings related to peace and human rights in Africa, but its “news”, “pictures” and “demonstrations” sections are entirely about human rights in Pakistan,” DisinfoLab says.

The groups ostensibly lobby around issues that are sure to cause discontent within Pakistan.

“Generally, we found several other NGOs regularly covering the same issues around minorities in Pakistan, Balochistan, Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. For a majority of these NGOs, these issues are not part of their original mission,” it notes.

For instance, in the southern Sindh province there’s strong resentment against the construction of upstream dams. But despite it being a domestic matter, the World Sindhi Congress was invited by one of the groups at the 2018 UNHRC to speak against the dam.

The report has also raised questions about the performance of UN bureaucracy as organizations set up to represent industry groups ended up in the hands of Indians and later used solely as tools to bash Pakistan.

Take for example the Canners International Permanent Committee (CIPC), which was established to promote the canning industry but stopped functioning in 2007. It was later reactivated by the same Indian network.

“The core theme of the original NGO – “canned foods” - was totally diverted by Indian Chronicles to undermine Pakistan at the Human Rights Council,” says DisinfoLab.

Another interesting example is of the African Regional Agricultural Credit Association (ARACA), which instead of proposing ways to help farmers, has used Geneva for anti-Pakistan activities.

A so-called Pakistani dissident, Mehran Marri, also known as Mehran Baluch, who has more than 27,000 followers on Twitter, has spoken on behalf of ARACA.

Marri, who supports Baluchistan’s secession from Pakistan, has also served as the President of Balochistan House, an organization linked to Ankit Srivastava of the Srivastava Group.

“NGOs tied to this ecosystem are also often represented by official representatives of minorities in Pakistan, who can be seen to speak for different organizations,” notes DisinfoLab.

The Indian disinformation network relies heavily on more than 700 fake media outlets to spread propaganda of the NGOs linked to Srivastava Group.

Fake news websites such as EU Chronicles, Japan Times Today, and Arizona Herald, regularly published Pakistan-centric stories.

The DisinfoLab found that the Indian news wire agency, ANI, a partner organization of Reuters, often helped magnify the stories published by these outlets.

Once sent out by ANI, these stories were picked up by respectable media groups such as The Times of India and The Economic Times.

A glaring example of how the propaganda works can be seen in the 2017 interview of the Pakistani diplomat Hussain Haqqani published in another fake outlet, Times of Geneva.

The story titled ‘Baloch posters in Switzerland to isolate Pakistan’ was picked up by ANI and forwarded to its subscribers. It ended up on the webpages of Outlook India magazine and the Business Standard. The list goes on...

So where does this latest unmasking of the nefarious Indian designs leave Pakistan? The fact of the matter is that a damning report of such proportions against India by a European organization has given Pakistan a blank cheque to draw the battle lines in whichever way it likes. Pakistan ought to start a vigorous diplomatic and economic campaign against its enemy, which would essentially be based on truth.

It is clear that the only real and lasting way for Pakistan to defeat the fascist ideologies prevalent in Modi’s India is for it to revert to its *raison d’être*; by becoming a genuine Islamic country. We believe that it is the only way to attain the pleasure of Allah (*SWT*) and demonstrate the willingness and ability to ‘take on’ India and its allies, which would not only make us successful in this world but also and in the Hereafter. May Allah (*SWT*) bestow our leadership and masses to do so.

Aameen!

Signing off...

Raza ul Haq (Editor)

A deep-seated inferiority complex

A recent TV show clip — interview of a famous journalist on a top ranked TV channel — reminded me of how strongly we have been brainwashed into believing in the superiority of white man. The journalist had a long list of items which prove that the white man is infinitely superior to the brown man, and that we are a thousand times worse than the “civilized” races. To pick a couple of items at random, he thought that the white men are always honest, and they would be deeply insulted if they were accused of lying. Similarly, he thought that selling fraudulent medicines and making excessive profits were faults that only brown people like us have. It is not just that the whites do not do such things; they cannot even conceive that civilized people could commit such heinous crimes.

Apparently, it seems that he learned about Western civilization only from movies which glorify it, and is completely ignorant of the realities of the modern Western cultures. As far as lying is concerned, KellyAnne Conway had to create the notion of “Alternative Facts” to defend lies told by President Trump. He seems to be unaware that the US and UK created a campaign to deceive their own public into supporting the war against Iraq, in order to cover up their true motives for the war, which involved killing millions of innocents, and destroying the entire country, just for control of oil. He does not know about the recent case where more than half of a Harvard class was caught cheating. I would advise him to read a recent article in Newsweek with the title: “The Truth Is We Are All Raging Liars.” The article shows that while Americans like to think they are honest, the reality is that: “We are a culture of liars, to put it bluntly, with deceit so deeply ingrained in our psyches that we hardly even notice we’re engaging in it.” Moreover, in June 2018, the Washington Post reported that Trump had made 3,251 false or misleading claims in his first 497 days in office—an average of more than 6.5 claims per day.

Similarly, the glorified idealization that there is no concept of selling fake and harmful drugs in the civilized West has no match to reality. Recently, GlaxoSmithKline, the British drug giant, has agreed to pay \$750 million to settle criminal and civil complaints that the company for years knowingly sold contaminated baby ointment and an ineffective antidepressant (what we call Number 2 drugs). This is just one among a large number of similar abuses, where the pharmaceutical industry has knowingly put dangerous drugs on the market, concealing research regarding harmful effects. In a recent case filed in North Carolina, Attorney General Stein said that “As millions of Americans were becoming addicted to and dying from prescription painkillers, it appears Insys and its sales representatives were pushing its incredibly potent opioid on North Carolina patients just to make more money. This is unconscionable, it’s unacceptable and it’s illegal.”

Contrary to the idea that “making excessive profits” at public expense is only what uncivilized brown people do, the pharmaceutical industry makes huge profits by charging enormously inflated prices for essential medicines. For just one recent example, Turing Pharmaceuticals raised the price of Daraprim tablets from \$13.50 to \$750 per tablet in just one day. Another article entitled Pharmaceutical Industry Is Biggest Defrauder of the Federal Government shows that over the past decades, the Pharmaceutical industry has paid about \$20 billion in fines for selling drugs with false advertisements of their supposed benefits. Unethical practices by the pharmaceutical industry are detailed in hundreds of articles and books. One of the most prominent cases was when Senator Tauzin herded the “Medicare Prescription Drug Bill” through Congress using dirty tactics, including pressurizing and bribing opponents into changing votes. This amazing bill forces the US Government Medicare Health program to buy from local pharmaceutical industry at whatever price they name; the government is not allowed to negotiate the price, and cannot import exactly equivalent drugs from across the border in Canada! It has been calculated that this bill amounted to a \$80 billion gift to the pharmaceutical industry. This provision was so outrageous that Obama made a campaign promise to get it repealed, but could not succeed against the powerful pharmaceutical lobby. Two weeks after getting the bill passed, Senator Tauzin resigned from the Congress to take a \$2 million job with the grateful pharmaceutical industry as their lobbyist in Congress.

Perhaps the blinders on this journalist’s eyes would be removed by looking at the treatment given to asylum seekers at the borders of the USA recently. While the zero-tolerance policy of Trump was rescinded in face of outrage and social pressure, thousands of little children remain separated from their parents, and held in cages, with no mercy being shown to screaming children and crying parents. This is the civilization so admired by him?

It must be clarified that I do not support the idea that the East is superior to the West, or vice versa; good and bad people can be found everywhere. My essay is just to dispel the journalist’s idea that only angels live in the West, while we are all degenerate and immoral in the East. This misconception arises from centuries of colonization which has left deep psychological scars. Our traditional educational systems, which provided free education to all, were deliberately destroyed by the British, fearful of resistance to their rule from an educated public. These were replaced by an education designed to create admiration and respect for the West, together with contempt and hatred for our own heritage and ancestors. This educational system continues to this day, and creates exactly the same effects. This conquest of knowledge was a key to the ability of a handful of British to rule a huge country. In the era of the British rule, boot-licking of the British was the only way to rise in the ranks of the government. Especially after the events of 1857, those people who admired the British and betrayed their own people got awards and honors, while those who were honest and sincere were stripped of their properties and imprisoned in British jails. While the British are long gone, the Brown Baboos who have replaced them faithfully imitate and admire their past colonial masters, and proudly wear and display their chains of slavery. They continue to believe and propagate the canard that “Hum to Zaleel Qaum Hain”, that everyone in Pakistan is corrupt, and long list of complaints about how bad we are as a nation, while in the West everyone is perfect.

In my own experience as a teacher, this inferiority complex is the first barrier to educating students to achieve excellence. Coming in with the belief that we are an inferior people, it is hard for students to believe in themselves, and in the possibility that we can make great achievements. The inspirational message of Iqbal provides an excellent antidote to this poisonous inferiority complex. In order to create the desired change, we need to awaken our youth to their enormous potential, their ability to soar like the eagles.

While the British are long gone, the ‘Brown Baboos’ who have replaced them faithfully imitate and admire their past colonial masters, and proudly wear and display their chains of slavery.

Source: An article by Dr. Asad Zaman; published in daily *The Nation* (August 2018). The writer is the VC of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics.

Editor’s Note: The Editorial Board of “Perspective” may not agree with all information provided, analysis made and conclusions drawn in the article.

**Press Releases issued by Tanzeem-e-Islami****Date: 11 December 2020****Lahore (PR): “Indian fraudulence, deceit and propaganda campaign has been fully exposed at the world stage.”**

This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement.

He noted that the Brussels-based fake news and media disinformation watchdog, EU DisinfoLab, has unmasked the Indian state-backed propaganda campaign using Srivastava Group (SG) against Pakistan spanning over a period of 15 years, in its investigative report “Indian Chronicles”.

He said that India was committing this deceitfulness with utmost arrogance using its state institutions, state media and news agencies and other state machinery. Moreover, India was using fake websites, phony media outlets and bogus NGOs to influence the international media, the European Union, the UN and its subordinate organs and affiliate bodies, along with a plethora of other international forums to isolate and malign Pakistan. In addition, India was also ‘presenting’ fake Baloch ‘separatist’ and ‘secessionist’ groups to the entire world.

The Ameer lamented that the so-called secular and liberal elements of Pakistan were also using the same false and fabricated Indian news stories and reports as the basis for their anti-Pakistan narrative during this extensive period.

The Ameer expressed surprise that how come the most technologically advanced and developed countries of the World were taken for a ride by this Indian deceit. He remarked that it appears that India had the full and unconditional support of the West in committing these unethical and downright criminal acts.

The Ameer concluded by asserting that now that this deceit has been exposed, Pakistan ought to actively and aggressively unmask the real malignant face of India on the local, regional and international levels.

Date: 04 December 2020**Lahore (PR): “The assassination by Israel of the top Iranian nuclear scientist is the vilest kind of state terrorism.”**

This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement. He noted that the sinister silence of USA and Europe on this appalling incident of terrorism clearly proves that these so-called ‘civilized nations’, who never cease their ‘rhetorical’ lamentation of terrorism, are in fact the biggest supporters and advocates of terrorist Israel.

All those Western countries that possess nuclear capability do not want to see any other Muslim country becoming a nuclear power. Moreover, they want to transform the regional conflicts between Arab and Ajam (non-Arabs) into full-scale enmity.

He said that Iran has a right to retaliate, however, it ought to keep in mind that such action must only be taken against the enemies of Islam who are directly involved in this criminal act.

While commenting on the threat of retaliation given by Iran to UAE, the Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami remarked that such attitude and any such action would only serve the nefarious designs of the enemies of Islam.

The Ameer concluded by asserting that the need of the hour is for the Muslim World to recognize their real enemies and, whenever an opening presents itself, to seize that opportunity and take retributive measures against those enemies.