

Saving Education and Academic Institutions from Communalism ♦

India is a democratic country a banquet of different flowers and cultures. This variety adds to the beauty of our national orchid. India enjoys global respect for it. The founder fathers of Indian constitution have kept this fact in view. Unfortunately, Communal forces want to tarnish their image. They try to usurp religious rights of minorities. To give saffron color to educational institutions is one of such a nefarious move is that some of the states, under the direction from the central government have made Surya Namaskar (Salute to the Sun) compulsory in government school or children are being motivated to do so. Students are made to idol worship. Bhagwat Gita and other religious concepts of the majority community are being made a part of the curriculum. In this perspective this conclave of Muslim theologians (Ulama) Jurists and scholars from all over the country demand the government not to undertake such steps, Religious freedom of minorities is guaranteed by constitution of the country and the pluralistic traditions of our country must be kept in view. Equal respect to all religion in all the sections of life and particularly in educational institutions must be ensured. At the same time this conclave urges the Ulama and dignitaries of the Muslim Community to establish standard academic institutions of modern education where secular/modern education is imported with fundamental Islamic education and upbringing is ensured. These institutions must not run on commercial lines but the mission should be to provide better standard education to the new generation of Muslims with moral upbringing.