



Press Release
8 September, 2023

Visva-Bharati is under seize. As soon as concerted efforts were made to purge the campus of evil practices like **financial irregularities, indiscipline, corruption** and **stern action** against the landsharks, those who were adversely affected brought out their fangs to attack the Visva-Bharati's authority. The Vice Chancellor was abused, put in captivity for more than three weeks without even access to the basic needs of day-to-day survival. He was hit by a stone when the Officer-in-Charge of Santiniketan PS was walking next to him. He was abused by specific number of students who were instigated by those (a miniscule number of academic staff members) who were disgruntled as they failed to fulfil their adversarial designs. They raise their voice when a globally reputed individual was charged with illegally occupying Visva-Bharati's leasehold land which is now being investigated by the court of law. No further statement on this as the matter is *subjudice*. The same group of teachers are mum when a good Samaritan unconditionally donated 72 decimals of land and a house of nearly 7000 square feet to Visva-Bharati.

The battle against evil forces has been confined to the campus so far. Now, the police forces have joined the endeavour at stopping fierce attack on the vested interests as they are seemingly supported by the government in power. The Vice Chancellor and those who are assisting him in this cleansing mission are now heckled by the law enforcement agencies by registering FIRs at the drop of the hat. False and frivolous charges are made in the FIRs. If Service rules are followed with letters and spirit to determine the fate of an applicant, caste atrocities charges are labelled against the authority although the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in its judgment of 10 August, 2023 endorsed Visva-Bharati's claim and the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its verdict of 11 August, 2023 also dismissed the petition by the self-proclaimed victim who was identified by the Audit as one who took financial benefits which were not legally endorsed.

An academic essay by the Vice Chancellor was identified as a source of abuse and an FIR was slapped; tragically, the same group of people shout by exhausting their lung power when Dr. Sabyasachi Das was harassed at Ashoka University, Haryana because he wrote a critical essay raising certain "controversial points". Isn't it **HYPOCRICY**? In New Delhi, these hypocrites of Visva-Bharati bother because freedom of speech is harmed while at Visva-Bharati an academic discourse with reference to the writings of Gurudev

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Rabindranath Tagore, Sajani Kanto Das, Rajnarayan Basu and other well-known chroniclers of Bengal's past has evoked a completely different kind of responses. These miniscule pretentious academicians play two yardsticks to firmly prove that they are hypocrites *per excellence*. What is very disturbing, as Hanah Ardent in her most thought-provoking booklet entitled *on Violence* (1970) explained that when the state authority is involved with the those harming individuals seeking to reestablish the rule law and not RULE BY LAW, it encourages tendencies contrary to democracy which, if not controlled well in advance, may end up with a state with clear fascist leanings. Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852) George Orwell's *Animal Farm* (1945), Lee Harpar's *To kill a mocking bird* (1960), and, of course, Mahatma Gandhi's *Hind Swaraj* (1909), Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's *Charitra Puja* (1895), the novel, *Gora* (1910), to identify a few, are inspirational texts to battle against Fascism and Fascist States. In such a battle, the victims are however innocent learners and the system of education in West Bengal that was a matter of pride in recent past and initiated many illustrious individuals to learning (including those identified by the Nobel Committee worthy of awards in memory of Alfred Nobel for their seminal contribution in a field of Social Sciences) who made Bharat proud for their significant contribution in various fields of creativity.

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