





### SOUTH ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MINORITIES

## UAPA: A DRACONIAN ACT OF INDIA AGAINST MUSLIM MINORITY

**SINCE**, the beginning of COVID-19 virus spread, India has been using this as opportunity to overpower the Muslim Minority Voices of India. In the recent episode of Indian Human Rights violations highly educated Muslims have been booked under draconian anti-terrorism laws like *UAPA*. The educated Muslim youth of India who has been raising voices against the most controversial *Citizenship Amendment Act and National Register of Citizens* through peaceful protests. However, Modi government along with RSS led and inspired state institutions have illegally arrested large number of Muslim Youth Activists and Social Workers.

The UAPA is anti-social act and the advanced version of the notorious *Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA)* and *Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act (TADA)* which has been ruthlessly used against Minorities specifically Muslims in the past.

It is ironic that India claimed to be champion of democracy has been violently using Anti- Constitutional terrorism laws against PhD scholars, Health Professionals like Doctors, University students and to the extent of pregnant women.

World needs to look at these grave fundamental Human Rights violations, where thousands of innocent Muslims in India are put behind the bars on charges of *Freedom of Expression*, *Freedom of Speech*, and *Supporting the cause of Humanity*.

## UAPA- A HEINOUS INDIAN ACT AGAINST MUSLIM MINORITY

THE Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, (UAPA) an Anti-Human Rights act, was introduced in 1967 as a legislation to set out reasonable restrictions on the fundamental freedoms under Article 19 (1) of the Indian Constitution, such as freedom of speech, right to assemble peacefully and right to form associations. The amended UAPA grants un-necessary powers to the Indian government to declare certain organizations, individuals as "unlawful associations" or "terrorist organizations". The inhuman UAPA is the further extension of TADA and POTA. The UAPA is serious violation of the Human Rights law - abiding under the UN charter. The UAPA Act permits following:-

- It consents the state machinery the right to suppress any justified struggle for rights or dissent.
- It allows illegal detaining of the individuals may or may not involve in "acts of terrorism" for 6 months without any adequate evidence.
- It even permits police to seize belongings and arrest individuals with no warrants.
- Unfortunately, it allows life imprisonment and also for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.

The proclamation holds the arrests and subsequent terrible charges applied under the UAPA Act against Muslims and Dalits equally. Particularly, its wrath is faced by protestors of controversial *Citizenship Amendment Act, National Register of Citizens*, by labeling the Muslim Social Rights Activists as terrorists.

The UAPA Act limits the Indian constitutional guarantees of free & fair trials and right to life and liberty. UAPA thus perverts the very notion of rule of law beyond recognition. Several Human and Public Rights Defenders & Social Activists, who were earlier booked under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and arrested on fake charges of riots in Northeast Delhi in February 2020, are being re-booked under stringent sections of the UAPA.



# UAPA AND THE AGONY OF MUSLIM SOCIAL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

#### **MUSLIMS ACTIVISTS BOOKED UNDER UAPA**

NAME: SHARJEEL IMAM

AGE: 32 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: JAN 27, 2020

PROFESSION: PH.D SCHOLAR JAWAHARLAL

**NEHRU UNIVERSITY** 

Social activist booked under UAPA Act for delivering speeches on controversial CAA & NRC. The sedition case was framed against him on a speech at Aligarh Muslim University. He is imprisoned in Guwahati jail. Even diagnosed with *COVID-19*, police is not providing essential medical treatment.

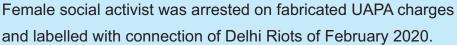


NAME: GULFISHA

AGE: 25 YEARS

DATE OF ARREST: APRIL 9, 2020

PROFESSION: MBA STUDENT & ACTIVIST





NAME: MASARAT ZEHRA

AGE: 26 YEARS

DATE OF ARREST: APRIL 20, 2020

PROFESSION: PHOTO JOURNALIST



A photo journalist was booked under the ill-famed UAPA Act during April 2020 by involving her in "anti-national activities" on social-media relates to Jammu & Kashmir.

NAME: SHARJEEL USMANI

AGE: 23 YEARS DATE OF ARREST: JULY 9, 2020

PROFESSION: STUDENT, ALIGARH MUSLIM

**UNIVERSITY** 

A student activist of AMU was kidnapped by security agencies; under UAPA & NSA and imprisoned at Luckhnow Jail. He led protests and published articles on controversial CAA-NRC during 2020.



NAME: DR. KAFEEL KHAN

AGE: 38 YEARS

DATE OF ARREST: JAN 29, 2020

PROFESSION: HEALTH ACTIVIST M.D PEDIATRICS,

He is doctor by profession. He treated vulnerable communities free of cost .The icon of humanity was arrested by UP police and booked under UAPA Act for delivering speeches on provocative CAA protests on January 2020.



AGE: 32 YEARS DATE OF ARREST: FEB, 2020

PROFESSION: PH.D ALUMNI, JAWAHARLAL

**NEHRU UNIVERSITY** 

Social activist initially arrested and subsequently booked under UAPA, as police added out of context parts of his speech during infamous CAA related demonstrations on February 2020.

NAME: MEHRAN HAIDER

AGE: 32 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: APRIL 1, 2020

PROFESSION: PH.D SCHOLAR ALIGARH MUSLIM

**UNIVERSITY** 

He was arrested and booked under **UAPA Act** for organizing and protesting on controversial CAA-NRC, on April 2020 even though the protests were peaceful and were for the cause of humanity.

NAME: ASIF TANHA
AGE: 32 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: MAY 17, 2020

PROFESSION: BA STUDENT OF JAMIA, MEMBER

STUDENT'S ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION

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He was arrested on the framed charges of violence at Jamia and booked under the in human **UAPA Act** to condemn the CAA-NRC, on April 2020.









NAME: SAFOORA ZARGAR

AGE: 27 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: APRIL 10, 2020

PROFESSION: WOMEN ACTIVIST, M.PHIL STUDENT

**ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY** 

Famous social activist was arrested on framed charges of UAPA Act; even she was pregnant for three months. Charges leveled against her for riots that broke out in February 2020 on the protests against the CAA-NRC.



NAME: AMIR MINTOEE

AGE: 42 YEARS

DATE OF ARREST: APRIL, 2020

PROFESSION: STUDENTS RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Social Activist was arrested by the UP police as he was distributing food to the poor communities and was active in highlighting the crimes committed by police against students during December 2019. Later on, booked under UAPA.



NAME: FARHAN ZUBERI

AGE: 22 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: MAY 28, 2020

PROFESSION: SOCIOLOGY STUDENT, ALIGARH

UNIVERSITY

Young student activist arrested and later on booked under UAPA Act on framed charges of sedition and attempt to murder in connection with CAA-NRC protests during on April 2020.





NAME: ISHRAT JAHAN

AGE: 38 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: FEB 26, 2020

PROFESSION: ADVOCATE, SOCIAL ACTIVIST

She protested peacefully against controversial CAA for 49 days later on arrested and booked under the UAPA Act, in a fabricated case of violence in northeast Delhi during February 2020.



NAME: KHALID SAIFI

AGE: 39 YEARS
DATE OF ARREST: FEB 2020

PROFESSION: POLITICAL ACTIVIST

Political activist arrested by Delhi Police in late February 2020 under **UAPA Act.** He was even tortured brutally in police custody and was produced before court on March 12, with broken legs and was in wheel chair.



NAME: SHIFA UR RAHMAN

AGE: 47 YEARS

DATE OF ARREST: MARCH 1, 2020

PROFESSION: PRESIDENT JAMIA ASSOCIATION

Activist was arrested by the Delhi Police Special Cell and booked under merciless **UAPA** Act related to North East Delhi violence of February 2020.









