

Bajrang Dal members booked for assaulting professor

Some members of the Bajrang Dal here have been booked for assaulting a Kanpur University professor who allegedly framed a question on surrogate motherhood using names of Hindu deities in the ongoing law examinations, said the police Tuesday.

'Nirmal Mishra, a professor associated with the varsity's law department, was beaten up Monday by the Bajrang Dal members for allegedly hurting the sentiments of Hindus. After dragging Mishra out of his residence, the agitated Bajrang Dal members blackened his face and paraded him in the locality,' Collectorganj circle officer P.K. Chauhan told IANS.

He said cases under Indian Penal Code sections 504 (insult intended to provoke breach of peace), section 147 (rioting), and section 506 (criminal intimidation) have been registered against several Bajrang Dal members.

Referring to the controversial question that Mishra asked in the family law examination held May 22, a police official said: 'The professor used names like Ram, Sita, Shanker in a question on surrogate motherhood.'

The controversial question was: Ram and Sita got married in June 1988. Sita could not become pregnant, owing to some problem in her fallopian tubes. Doctors suggested an option to Sita to go for a mechanism in which her embryo would be artificially developed and transplanted to another woman's uterus in order to deliver a baby, said the varsity officials.

Sita told about the option to her mother Sheela, who accepted to deliver her daughter's baby as a surrogate mother. Later, a baby, Shanker, was born. Explain the relation between Shanker and Sita?, the officials said.

Members of the Kanpur University Teachers' Association (KUTA) have demanded action against Mishra for framing such a question that portrays Hindu gods and goddesses in poor light.

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