RASHTRA JYOTI

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Why Opposition Parties Dropped the Muzaffarnagar School Beating Issue

Original analysis by **Swati Goel Sharma**

Tyagi electoral influence in western Uttar Pradesh helps explain why opposition parties moved away from portraying the Muzaffarnagar classroom assault as communal. The boy's family and police disputed communal intent, and the Samajwadi Party and Bharatiya Kisan Union joined local efforts to ease tensions in a village where the teacher and the boy share a Tyagi identity.



The Tyagi affiliation in Western UP politics.

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- The report says the boy's family and police rejected communal intent, while the teacher faced charges under IPC sections 323 and 504.
- The Samajwadi Party and Bharatiya Kisan Union joined the BJP in rejecting the communal narrative and helped facilitate a regional mahapanchayat.
- Tyagi leader Mange Ram said the community, despite its longstanding BJP support, planned to support independent candidates in future elections.
- Activist Bhoore Tyagi argued that opposition parties withdrew because communal polarisation could bring disenchanted Tyagi voters back to the BJP.

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Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in August 2023. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.