RASHTRA JYOTI

REPORT BRIEF
900132 · November 2022

Media Watch · From the reporting archive

Ground Report Challenges Claims That Vikas Invented the Name Rashid

Original reporting by **Swati Goel Sharma**

Claims that Vikas Kumar invented a Muslim identity to defame Muslims collided with testimony from his own village. His family and neighbours said he had been called Rashid for years; the ground report also rejected certainty about his current religious faith.



Vikas alias Rashid Khan.

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- A second YouTube channel labelled him Muslim in its title despite his introducing himself on camera as Vikas Kumar.
- After the police statement, journalists and influencers claimed that Vikas had faked his identity with the purpose of defaming Muslims.
- A neighbour said villagers had called him Rashid for three years, after friends from an adjoining village began using that name.
- The investigation also rejected the initial claim that a Muslim was defending a Hindu woman's murder, because his current faith remained unresolved.

BACK RASHTRA JYOTI.

Support Rashtra Jyoti's ground reporting that checks viral identity claims against witnesses, original statements and the people directly involved.

rashtrajyoti.com/support/

Full article and sources: rashtrajyoti.com/?p=914286

SCAN TO SUPPORT

Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in November 2022. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.