RASHTRA JYOTI

REPORT BRIEF
900378 · November 2019

Education · From the reporting archive

Why BHU Students Challenged Khan's Appointment in Hindu Theology

Original reporting by **Swati Goel Sharma**

Firoze Khan's appointment to teach Sanskrit literature in BHU's Hindu theology faculty set off a student protest. Students said he could teach Sanskrit elsewhere at BHU, while the university maintained that its amended Act contained no religious bar to his appointment.



Students reciting Hanuman Chalisa as part of protest in BHU on November 21/Swati Goel Sharma

THE ESSENTIAL POINTS

- The post was in Sahitya, where Khan was to teach ancient Sanskrit literary works that were part of or inspired by Hindu religious texts.
- The faculty expected teachers and students to perform Sandhyavandanam, with morning and evening mantra recitation, as well as Shravani Upakarma at a sacred river.
- Students voiced the transfer demand publicly. Their 21 November letters to BHU officials focused on recruitment, and the dharna ended after the vice-chancellor asked for time to respond.
- The report compared the students' demand with the rules at St Stephen's, where the council overseeing moral and religious education draws its members exclusively from the Church.

BACK RASHTRA JYOTI.

Support Rashtra Jyoti's ground reporting on universities, so readers can examine what students demand, what institutions practise and what their rules say.

rashtrajyoti.com/support/

Full article and sources: rashtrajyoti.com/?p=918001

SCAN TO SUPPORT

Updated from an original written by Swati Goel Sharma in November 2019. Summary prepared by Rashtra Jyoti Staff. Facts refer to the original reporting date.