Daily Times - Site Edition   Saturday, September 11, 2010

Forced conversion?

By Amar Guriro

KARACHI: A 13-year-old Dalit girl was kidnapped from her house in Lyari Town.

Her uncle Bhanwroo said the girl Poonam was kidnapped from the neighbourhood on Wednesday. When the neighbours informed the family of her presence at a Madrassa in Lyari, they went there.

"She was very scared and under the influence of maulvis. She told us they will not let her go, so she will stay with them as a Muslim," said Bhanwroo.

He said the family contacted the Chakiwara Police to lodge an FIR of kidnapping, but they refused to register the case.

SP Lyari Khadim Hussain Rind told Daily Times that lodging an FIR would not make any difference, as it will be cancelled during court proceedings.

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Daily Times - Site Edition   Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Dalit girl's kidnap case registered

KARACH: The Chakiwara police registered the first information report (FIR) against former UC Nazim Baber Sultan, Uzma, Aisha for kidnapping a 13-year-old Dalit girl Poonam for forced conversion to Islam. The Chakiwara police station duty officer told Daily Times that the father of the girl Dahrho Mal lodged FIR No 244/10 under section 361, against the kidnappers and the main accused is former UC Nazim Baber Sultan. The alleged accused Baber Sultan while talking to Daily Times said the girl had converted to Islam at Binoria and now she is a Muslim named Mariam. "I fulfilled my duty as a perfect Muslim and knew that an FIR was lodged against me", Sultan said. The girl was kidnapped from her neighbourhood in Lyari Town on September 8, her uncle Bhanwroo had earlier revealed. It is worth mentioning that the Daily Times staffer who had earlier reported the news is receiving death threats on his phone. "I have received several calls from several PCO numbers. The callers introduce themselves as religious clerics, and they asked me not to file the follow up stories regarding the case," the staffer informed. asghar azad

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