

Jagannath Hall Alumni Association UK

(UK registered charity no-1152133)

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Jagannath Hall Alumni Association UK, is a Socio-cultural Charity organisation in the United Kingdom, representing alumni students of Dhaka University, Bangladesh, which has been serving the local community for the last 15 years. The organisation has recently noticed that a derogatory, racist, unlawful and discriminatory comment was made by Mr. Mahee Ferdous Jalil, the presenter of "COVID-19 appeal" show in Channel S TV (BSkyB Channel 777) at 12pm on 3rd May 2020 . With his defamatory remarks the members of this organisation as well as the Hindu community are deeply saddened and shocked. This has severely damaged social peace and harmony, as it hurt the religious feelings of this community.

The translation of his remarks, made in Sylheti dialect (local Bengali dialect), means ".....Muslims who came to this country from Bangladesh, have inherited the blood of Low Caste Hindus, the low, impure and heinous tradition of blood which is causing all problems in the community. Muslim shopkeepers cheat their customers because they have inherited the blood of Hinduism..."

He also defended his comment on 8th May 2020, in the same TV channel.

Upon the vigorous protest from the community members and different organisations Mr. Jalil has apologised to the community.

We strongly feel that the wording and the statement of apologies are incredibly unsatisfactory, as he was trying to escape the accusation, instead of acknowledging the mistakes and offences he committed. We also feel that this person, in no way, bears the confidence and trust of this community to continue his activities in any TV channel.

As such, we demand his immediate resignation and removal from Channel S. However, if he is not removed and allowed to continue his job in this channel then we will be compelled to take further action against the person as well as the TV channel to the higher legal and regulatory bodies of this country.

Yours faithfully

Monoj Talukder- President

Babu Majumder- General Secretary