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Today: West Bengal BJP Chief Threatens to Shut Christian Missionary Schools Over Conversion Claims

A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.

KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY

"If in Christian missionary schools there are anti-India activities on the grounds of religion and colour, we will not allow such schools to continue."

(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

The Story - Part One

West Bengal BJP president Samik Bhattacharya warned on Sunday 15 November 2026 that Christian missionary schools in the state could be shut down over alleged religious conversions - but he named no school, named no principal, and offered no evidence for any of his claims. The Bangiya Christiya Pariseba, the umbrella forum of Christian organisations in West Bengal, denied the allegations, demanded that he publicly name the institutions he was talking about, and asked the government to investigate.

Four plain words carried the Christian community's answer: name the institutions. If schools are doing what Bhattacharya alleged, the forum said, name them. If he cannot name them, then the accusation hangs over every missionary school in the state at once - and that, the community says, is the point.

Bhattacharya made his remarks at a Birsa Munda birth-anniversary event in Triangular Park, New Alipore, Kolkata, on Sunday. His warning, quoted by The Hindu, was sweeping: "If in Christian missionary schools there are anti-India activities on the grounds of religion and colour, we will not allow such schools to continue."

He went further, alleging that conversions are "currently taking place" in Asansol, run by the principal of an elite college in Kolkata - a college he described with the Bengali word "obhijato," meaning elite or aristocratic. But he named neither the college nor the principal, and he offered no evidence to support the allegation.

He also alleged that one school kept a Pakistani flag on a table, and that another told a woman BJP worker she could not enter wearing a saffron saree or pronounce the name of Krishna before students.

Again, no school was named. No evidence was presented. The allegations were made in public, about unnamed institutions, to an audience at a political event.

When pressed, Bhattacharya did not retreat - but he did not name anyone either. "I'm not naming it right now because in a few days, I'll stand at the school gate," he said, according to Telegraph India.

The promise of a future naming is not a naming. Until he stands at a gate and says which one, every missionary school in West Bengal lives under the same cloud.

The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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