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## Shrine closed in Kabul following lynching of woman

April 1, 2015



The Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs of Afghanistan has closed the shrine following a tragic incident last month where a woman was lynched over alleged Quran burning.

Thousands of people were visiting Shah Do Shamshera for prayers and the shrine was getting over crowded particularly on Wednesdays.

However, the tragic incident last month forced the Ministry of Hajj and Religious Affairs to close the door of the shrine.

The 27-year-old Farkhunda was brutally beaten, murdered and her body was set on fire by angry mob after she was accused of burning Quran.

At least 47 people including the custodian and the servant of the shrine have been arrested by police after investigations revealed the accusations were false and no proof was found to prove the holy Quran was torched.

Farkhunda was lynched after she spoke out against the superstitious practices she had witnessed with mullahs selling good-luck charms.

Her brutal murder also sparked several unprecedented protests in Kabul and other major cities of Afghanistan.

The protesters, including liberal-minded social activists and women's rights advocates, demand the prosecution of those who took part in the killing.