

October 21st 2021

Executive Statement Condemning Violence During Durga Puja in Bangladesh

The week of October 11th marked the annual celebration of Durga Puja which is known as the most auspicious festival for Bengali Hindus. This year in Bangladesh, where Hindus are a minority, Durga Puja celebrations were subject to violent and sectarian attacks on temples, festival devotees, houses, and communities for several days across the country, including gender-based acts of violence and destruction. The CUPE 3906 Executive joins voices around the world in condemning these acts and we mourn alongside affected communities in Bangladesh, the Bengali diaspora, and those amongst our membership. We recognize that Durga Puja represents a concerted celebration of strength, social justice, and feminine power and we stand in solidarity with demands for the Bangladeshi government to ensure accountability and reparations alongside the dignity and safety of religious minorities in Bangladesh.

In Solidarity,
The CUPE 3906 Executive