

## **RISING COMMUNAL FASCISM**

From the night of Sept 28, when a Hindu Priest of a temple made a loud announcement that the remains of slaughtered cow were found near Akhalaq's house in Bisara village in Dadri in Greater Noida near the national capital, a mob broke in to Akhalaq's house and lynched the 50 year old man and killed him and left his son with serious injuries, throughout the month of October, umpteen such incidents in various forms of attacks are made by the Hindu Communal bigots of all hues in various states of the country with impunity.

With the ascendance of BJP's NDA in to governmental power such fascist attacks of Hindutva cohorts have been occurring very often and it is apparent that the BJP rulers and the law and order maintenance administration have been complicit with these aggressive RSS & groups. These attacks are in the form of thrashing of dating couples in Mangaluru, assassination of rationalists in Maharashtra and Karnataka, provocative remarks from the leaders of BJP, VHP, RSS and other Sangh parivar out-fits besides mob lynchings.

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, the independent M.L.A. of Jammu & Kashmir Abdul Rashid was beaten and assaulted in the assembly itself, by the B.J.P. MLAs, for hosting a beef party. Again on October 19<sup>th</sup> the same MLA was attacked in New Delhi, in the premises of Press Club of India by the activists of Hindusena, who also threw ink and oil on him.

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, a mob attacked a truck in Udampur, following cow slaughter rumours and thrown a petrol bomb in to the truck which severely injured Zahid Rasool Bhat of Anantanag district of Kashmir, who succumbed to injuries in New Delhi on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

On October 14<sup>th</sup> one Noman Akthar, a resident of Saharanpur in UP was lynched and killed in Himachal Pradesh, alleging him as a cow smuggler, by Bajarangdal activists in Sirmour.

Pakistani Ghazal singer Ghulam Ali's concert to have been held on October 9<sup>th</sup> in Mumbai was forcibly cancelled by Shivsena after threatening the organiser of the event.

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, two youths were beaten up in U.P's Manipuri city, on an allegation that they were found slaughtering a cow. Later it transpired that it was a dead cow that the muslim youth were skinning and that its Hindu owner had actually allowed them to do so.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, Chetana Teestha Halli an associated director of Kannada Cinemas and writer who supported Muslims eating beef by writing some articles and participated in the rally of writers and feminists at Bangalore, reported police that she has been continually threatened that she would be raped and attacked with acid for her activities.

A visiting young man of Australia was threatened by a bunch of people in Bengaluru with dire consequences when they spotted on his shin the tatto of goddess yellamma. A police man instead of protecting the young Australian from the group, called him to a police station and forced him to write an apology.

On Oct 20, two persons of Hindu community assaulted 2 Muslim youth who are working with a mobile recharge store at Poikanpady in Bengaluru. The objection of the assaulters was that the Muslim youths were working along with to Hindu women at the store.

On Oct 21, an young dalit writer Prasad was attacked by RSS & Co bigots, threatening him that they would cut off his fingers if he writes critically about Hinduism, in Bengaluru.

On Oct 12, the Shiv Sena activist attacked in Mumbai on Sudhendra Kulakarni with black paint, for organising the launch of a book written by former Pakistan minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, and tarnished his face with black paint.

On Oct 20, persons belonging to Rajput community, set on fire of a house of a dalit family in Faridabad killing to minor dalit children, over a dispute.

On Oct 19, a group of Shivsena sainiks stormed the BCCI office ahead of a meeting between BCCI with the Pakistan cricket board and stalled the talks to revive cricketing ties with Pak. With the

threats from Shivsena the ICC had withdrawn umpire Aleem Dar of Pakistan from officiating the fifth ODI to be played in Mumbai on Oct 25.

On Oct 25, the members of the Shivsena party created a ruckus during the performance of a play by Pakistani artists in Gurgaon.

On Oct 26, activists of Hindusena barged in to the Kerala House in New Delhi and created a ruckus alleging that the canteen there was serving cow meat (in the name of beef on the Menu). Even the New Delhi police have visited Kerala House acting on a report made by a Hindu Sena activist and intimidated the Kerala house authorities.

On Oct 30, Shivsena activists assaulted an RTI activist Mallikarjun Bharkathi splattering his face with ink after badly beating him up in Latur district of the Marathwada region, after the RTI activist had 'threatened' to expose irregularities in construction of a local campus.

All these above incidents clearly show that the menace of Communal fascism is rising day by day in to disastrous proportions. With a goal to terrorise in to submission and elimination if possible, all those opposed to Hindutva, the Sangh parivar reactionary forces are aggressively pursuing their heinous attacks to intimidate the minorities and their opposing forces to either fall in line or fall silent.

Even two months ago, in Kaimarla town two Muslim youth were lynched for alleged cattle smuggling which, went unnoticed. Infact for the last four months the RSS & Co had set up an organisation called Samadhansena, which has been active in the areas of greater Noida. This organisation had brainwashed the priest of the temple of Kalaunda village in to erecting a public address system to use it to incite Hindus as has occurred in the Basna village of Dadri, where the priest of was forced to make a false announcement about killing of a cow, leading to lynching and killing of Mohammad Akhalq.

These lynchings by frenzied incited mobs on Muslims are akin to the ku klux clan lynchings of Negroes in U.S.A., and pogroms conducted by the Nazis against Jews in Germany.

The BJP government is systematically preparing legal grounds and providing a ruse to conducting such fascist attacks of lynching the Muslims by the RSS forces, through imposing legal meat bans during festivals such as a meat ban during the Jain festival "parpushan" in states of Gujarat, Rajstan, Chattisgarh and Punjab. In the name of cow protection and banning cow slaughter, the B.J.P. is silencing even the opposition parties-its electoral opponents-for fear of losing Hindu majority votes. In March this year, in the state of Haryana which has no history of cow slaughter and which already had a cow-protection law, a new heavily worded GAUVANSH SANRAKSHAN (cow protection) and GAUSAMVARDHAN (cow prorogation) Act was passed. This law has not only *given statutory* status to cow in governance, but this law is extended to eating even imported, canned beef, banned export of cows outside state for slaughter. The law also laid down that the state will setup a net work of laboratories to check samples of meat seized! And this law was passed unanimously. Congress MLAs voted for it and senior congress leader Bhupendra Singh Hooda congratulated the Chief Minister for it. Thus the cow politics taken up by RSS groups met no opposition. That is why the police of Mulayam-Akhilesh government have sent the meat for testing from the fridge of Akhilaq's house of Basra village in Dadri.

Replacing the slogan of Ram Mandir, the RSS forces have taken up the slogan of "sacredness of cow and its protection", to instigate hatred against Muslims and kill them with impunity or without any opposition from the opposition electoral parties. With this slogan of "sacredness of cow and its protection" these RSS forces are spewing the venom of hatred against Muslims and spreading their venomous ideology throughout the country spawning hundreds of Hindutva outfits like Samadhan Sena, Sanathansamstha, Hindusena, Abhinava Bharat etc to mobilise every segment of society from house-wives to forest dwellers ostensibly to avenge insult to Hindu religious sentiments.

But the Modi's government which has ascended in to power 'democratically' and which professes its belief in Gandhian policies, blatantly refuses to act against these fascist attacks and forces that are perilous to the existence of a peaceful society and chose to blatantly brand those who condemn these heinous fascist attacks as anti-Indian and agents of Pakistan. It even tried to justify these attacks in the name of protecting the Hindu traditions and Hindu sacredness.

When the poets, intellectuals, writers, scientists and film makers of universal renown are condemning these Hindutva fascist acts and calling for a right action, it chose to be arrogant by calling it as the "intolerance of intellectuals" perversely. It deliberately chose to ignore the public outcry and to be obstinate in pursuing its Communal politics with much more brutal force.

This Communal venom has spread in to such an extent to the minds of common men, even to the minds of workers, that recently a Muslim worker Yakub Shaik, a car washer was killed by his fellow worker in a Toyota servicing centre in Mumbai on Sept 29 by pumping pressurised air through his anus, for apparently no reason other than hatred.

Various international organisations of writers, women and intellectuals have demanded P.M.Modi to give justice for hate crime victims, but he chose to ignore such just and civil demands.

In the name of expressing his opinions on the Dadri incident he chose to evade the actual issue by stating that "Hindus should decide whether to fight Muslims or poverty. Muslims have to decide to fight Hindus or poverty. Both need to fight poverty together". This statement may exhibit the oratorical skill of Modi but it can not cover up the fact that he had equated the aggressors (RSS forces) with the victims (Muslims) and that it is not at all a fight between Hindus and Muslims but the fascist attacks of Communal forces on vulnerable Muslims- a minority. The poverty in India is the result of the failure of Indian rulers and governments, including Modi's government and it is the duty of the Modi's government to fight against poverty if he is really sincere.

In fact the Sangh parivar forces including Modi are not interested in maintaining peace and amity in the Indian society, particularly with Muslim minorities.

Recently, the right of Muslims in a Haryana village to build a mosque on land to which they had clear title has been denied, for all practical purposes.

The house of Ganesh Devi, a Vadodara-based writer who had returned his award was visited by a couple of police investigators, to ask whether his action was intended to spread "disaffection"- shades of the "midnight" knock of totalitarian state.

The above incidents indicate the stubborn insistence of the B.J.P.rulers, to pursue their Communal politics at any cost.

On the other hand the RSS mouth piece 'Panchjanya' had justified the Dadri lynching by claiming that "the Dadri lynching could not have happened without provocation from the victim and that the Vedas mandate killing of those who slaughter cows"; despite the clear contrary evidence.

On October, 23 the RSS had conducted a march in Jammu city brandishing 12 bore guns during the procession raising slogans such as "If one has to stay in India he has to say Vande Mataram". In the name of "Shastrapuja" RSS took-out these processions in a large part of the region, even areas with a significant population of Muslim population, which shows how the RSS has become aggressive.

If we can recollect the fact that only in the last month Modi and his cabinet were subjected to a three-day scrutiny by RSS and were approved of their government, we will clearly understand that the NDA government of Modi will not take any action against the continuing Communal fascist attacks nor it would stop such attacks, and that it would support those attacks with all the power available to it.

Now in the wake of the ongoing meeting of RSS at Ranchi, to review the census data on religious communities, we need not have any doubt or illusion about the rising menace of Communal fascism.

The protest movement launched by the poets, writers, scientists and intellectuals opposing the Hindutva fascist attacks has now to be strengthened, extended and continued with undeterred and firm commitment with the participation of more and more people from all segments of society, particularly from the toiling masses.

Thus only the rising menace of Communal fascist attacks can be successfully be opposed.

\*\*\*\*