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Incident 1: 5 September, 2006; New Delhi. At a meeting of Chief Ministers, Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, the Chief Minister of West Bengal requested the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to help demolishing the terrorist haunts all over India. He demanded that just as the soldiers of the Indian Army raided the jungles of Bhutan and razed the terrorist camps of Kamtapuris in Bhutan about two years back, similar operations might be carried out in Bangladesh too. Earlier Bhutan had to agree to the decision of the Indian government; they had to allow entry of the



Indian Army. Bangladesh also could be put under pressure and stern steps might be taken to erase the terrorist camps there. According to him there was no better way to tackle the Pakistani terrorists, Maoists or the KLO activists. He also added that efforts should be made to acquire the disputed villages within half a kilometer of the Indian border.

Incident 2: 5 September, 2006, Place: Dhaka. In a strong reaction to the proposal of Buddhadeb Bhattacharya in the Chief Ministers' meet in India, the foreign minister of Bangladesh, Md. Morshed Khan clearly said that this attitude of India was the expression of a crude imperialistic mentality. It was a well known fact that the terrorist activities going on in Bangladesh are patronised by India; but still Bangladesh did not take such high-handed approach, he added.



Buddhadev Bhattacharya

Incident 3: Recently the Home Secretary of India visited Dhaka. He handed over a detailed list with a map of the anti-India terrorist camps existing in Bangladesh. In reply, the Home Secretary of Bangladesh placed a map with a list of terrorist camps in India that are working against Bangladesh.

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Incident 4: All political parties in India, be it BJP or the Congress, i.e. the ruling party as well as the opposition, feel that Pakistan and Bangladesh are the main sources of all terrorist activities in the country; it is those two countries that are endlessly supplying violence to our nation. The Kashmiri fighters are being trained in Pakistan; the terrorists have made their homes in the residential areas—they wish to use the civilians as their bodyguards and camouflage themselves among the homes of the common people. The political parties strongly feel the need to demolish such haunts.



Incident 5: President Musharraf of Pakistan untiringly repeats that India has a hand behind all terrorist activities in Pakistan. India-Pakistan peace talk can never succeed without considering the opinions of the people of Kashmir and without including them in the discussion. Unless there is a permanent solution of the Kashmir problem, peace will never descend upon the valley. According to Musharraf, India is carrying out state terrorism on the freedom-fighters of Kashmir.

The Pakistan President has said more than once that for some time the province called Baluchistan was fighting for separation from Pakistan and the *Baluch* terrorists were being helped with weapons and funds by none other than the Indian government.

Moreover, he says that at regular intervals terrible explosions have been perpetrated in Pakistan by Indian terrorists.

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Incident 6: The Lebanese *Hizbullah* terrorists were openly attacking Israel for quite some time. This kind of open rocket- attacks were of course not supported by the Lebanese government. But it was not possible to harness the *Hizbul Mujahideens*. Hizbullah camps are also in the middle of the civilian habitats. They needed the protection of the common people around them. The Israel government, in the interests of the Israelis, has endeavored to demolish the Mujahideen camps in Lebanon. As a result there were continuous casualties by way of 3 to 13 deaths everyday in Lebanon. The Indian media and the Indian political parties voiced their opinions against Israel; they know the Indian mindset. These same people find it logical to destroy the 'secret terrorist camps' in Pakistan or Bangladesh.



Those who support the need to demolish secret terrorist camps in neighboring countries, criticise Israel for attacking open camps in Lebanon!

Incident 7: At the time when Israel was attacking the Lebanese camps, Srilanka government dropped a bomb on a school building in the Tamil dominated area of

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Srilanka. More than 400 school children, future citizens of the country, died in the explosion. Another 2000 were injured. None of the Israel-haters of our country uttered a single word of protest at this atrocious crime committed by Srilanka government.

Incident 8: Pope has recently made a controversial statement. He said—a group of believers in the Islamic religion are using their religious belief to spread an atmosphere of terrorism throughout the world. This is going on since the birth of Islam.



As a result of Pope's comment, a group of Islamic fundamentalist believers has announced war against Pope and the Christian world. What do they plan to do? By destroying some planes, trains or buildings are they going to prove that what Pope said was bitter but true after all?



Incident 9: 13 July, 2006. In the presence of the Press in Mumbai, Police Chief P.S.Pasricha informed that there was no involvement of Muslim terrorists or foreign hands in the horrible bomb blasts that shook Mumbai a few days back. The terror was created by local goons under the directions of certain politicians of

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Maharashtra. They have been identified, and would soon be arrested. During the parliament session Pasricha made this announcement. Now the members of BJP in the parliament condemned Pasricha for his announcement—it was beyond his



jurisdiction—they said. All other party members agreed. Even our Prime Minister did not find Pasricha's words particularly palatable when he himself was blaming Pakistan for the blasts. No, none of the politicians or mafia dons was arrested. Pasricha was blacked out for going 'beyond

his limits'. The central detective department informed that three notorious terrorists from Pakistan carried out the blast in Mumbai and had returned via Bangladesh. No minister ever wanted to know what was the proof Pasricha had with him? What made him give such a statement to the press? Why is it that no one wanted to know what he had to say? We would like to know.

The National Security Advisor of India, M.K.Narayanan gave an interview to the press in October 2006 in connection with the Mumbai train blast. His explosive statement has angered the Prime Minister. Mr. Narayanan informed the press that there is no 'indisputable' evidence to categorically say that the blasts in Mumbai had been carried out by Pakistan.



Narayanan added that the proofs that India is quoting as evidences against Pakistan, if challenged, cannot be proved in the international court. It will only put India in an embarrassing situation.

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Now the papers in Pakistan are using this statement of Mr. Narayanan to call India a liar. *'The Dawn'* has put in its headline on 23 October, 2006 that India is backing out from its earlier statement; there is no definite proof against

Pakistan regarding the Mumbai blasts. The same day *'The News'* has reported on the same line—that there is no proof of the role of Pakistan in the Mumbai blasts.

On 24 October 2006, President Musharraf strongly criticised India and said that without sufficient evidence India should not point the finger of accusation at his country.

Many ministers of the central ministry think that Narayanan was an IPS officer and evidences were important in his earlier capacity. But now he needed to be shrewder and should not have made such rash comments.

Definition of Terrorism

(1) As per the [Wikipedia](#), the largest storehouse of information, there are more than 100 definitions of the word 'terrorism'. These definitions are used by:--

- UNO
- The European Union
- United States
- Other Countries

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(2) The UN Charter on 'Terrorism'

'Action with respect to threats to the peace, breaches of the peace, and acts of aggression'

- If any country threatens another country, interferes with the affairs of another country to disrupt peace or occupies another country or part of it—such an aggressive nation shall be treated as involved in terrorist activities.
- UN has a 'Military Staff Committee'. And as per Article 46: 'Plans for the application of armed force shall be made by the Security Council with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee.'
- In 1987, UN at its General Assembly added a clear definition of the word 'Terrorism'. In one place it is said that, those who are fighting against colonial rule, against foreign dominance or ethnic hatred shall not be

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treated as 'terrorists'. Even though most countries signed this proposal, some countries like America, Israel etc. were against it.

On November 2003 in the UNO General Assembly, a proposal was brought by the United States that if any country sought help to fight terrorism in their country, UNO would provide the necessary assistance. But surprisingly, a majority of members said that 'terrorism' and 'freedom movement' should not be confused. For example, the activists in Kashmir or Palestine could in no way be termed as terrorists. The proposal brought by the United States was therefore voted out.

The USA and Terrorism

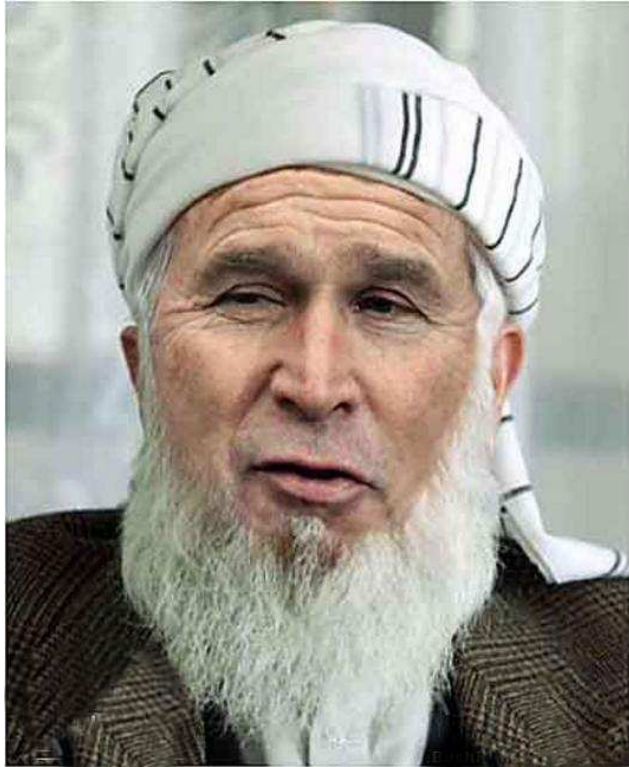
The Home Department of USA while defining the word 'terrorism' has said—
“The term 'terrorism' means premeditated politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience.”

A Foreign Terrorist Organisation or FTO as defined by the Home Department of the United States is one that is foreign, is engaged in terrorist activities endangering the lives of American citizens.

Every two years the American Home Department publishes a list of Foreign Terrorist Organisations. The bank accounts or properties in the name of any organisation in the FTO list are frozen by the American Government. No citizen of America can extend any help, monetary or otherwise, to an organisation listed as FTO.

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If we accept the definition of 'terrorist' as per UNO, we have to agree that the USA is undoubtedly a big 'terrorist'. The USA terrorises any nation that goes against its interests, interferes in the foreign policies, economic policies, commercial and agricultural policies of other nations. The USA while trying to keep its own citizens safe from 'terrorists', creates 'terrorism' in other countries.



Popular photo on the net depicting Bush as a terrorist

In many cases 'terrorism' is born out of reaction against American imperialism. Again taking America as an arch enemy, desperate suicidal squads are formed. Either due to the imperialistic attitude of the USA, or from the much publicised notion that 'Islam is the enemy of the Christians of the Western world', many Muslim countries have developed an anti-American mentality. It is also true that in all the Islamic countries there is a terrible atmosphere of hatred for the Western or American values. The reason is the difference between medieval values and modern education or progressive values.

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But it is not true that all Islamic countries nurture hatred against America; some of them are supporters of America in some way or the other, for example—Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, Morocco, Turkey, Jordan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan. The governments of these countries have support for the USA, but the poor citizens of those countries may have anti-American feelings.

(3) Among those classified as ‘other countries’, most nations have divided Violence into two categories—Lawful and Unlawful. Only the instances of unlawful violence are termed by these countries as Terrorism. This classification is made keeping political advantages in mind.

(4) Sometimes we find that political parties and governments instigate people, make them hysteric and get them involved in terrorist activities for their own benefit. They keep police, military or the state outside the operations and get their jobs done to invariably get some specific political benefit. The state brings different religious, ethnic or linguistic groups into the vortex of violent terrorist activities with the help of their own pet militant group of criminals. For effective implementation of the entire planned operation, along with shrewd politicians, reporters, lawyers, explosive-experts, scientists, media and top police people are also called for help. These ‘other countries’ have the required funds for these operations. The political parties of all these nations are basically corrupt and their politicians are the pillars of corruption.

(5) Among the ‘other countries’ many are themselves Terrorist Nations’. In 1996 Amnesty International prepared a report after carrying out investigation

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on 150 countries. Out of this, 82 nations have been found to carry out terrorist activities themselves. Here the government conducts atrocities



like kidnapping, detention without charge, raiding houses without proper warrants, arresting under fictitious charges where no witnesses are kept in support of charges of holding objectionable items/papers etc. Here the soldiers are given a freehand to loot, rape and kill the common people. The purpose is to create an atmosphere of terror.

Among these 82 countries, our Great India is one.

(6) The reign of terror created by a 'terrorist nation' is many times more grim



and horrific than the terror created by terrorist groups within the country. It is impossible to fathom the depth of this gruesome reality from outside. Those who survive suffer from fear

psychosis and many lose mental balance in the long run. Continuous, acute tension gives rise to heart diseases, diabetes, frigidity, impotence, asthma, ulcers, stammering, nervousness and even depression and suicidal tendencies. Many become complete mental patients.

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It is not easy for an outsider to gather the horrid details or even imagine them when the state carries on terrorism on a particular area or a group of people. It is mainly because the media of a 'terrorist country' are never impartial in their reporting. So the terror created on an isolated ethnic group is never fully known to the other citizens.

More than a hundred thousand Kurd citizens (an ethnic tribe of Iraq) have been killed by the ex-president of Iraq. Thousands of people were looted and killed by their own countrymen only because they belonged to the Shia sect of Muslims. In a similar fashion the states of Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and the seven North-eastern states of India—namely, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal, Meghalaya and Tripura are under constant threat of State Terrorism.

This terrible state-organized intimidation is now spreading to the districts of West Bengal—namely, Purulia, Bankura and West Midnapur.



These Terrorist States often push their terror-struck victims towards counter-terrorism'.

(7) We the citizens of each state should first decide upon the definition of 'Terrorism'. Those who are branded by the state—are they really spreading terror? Or are they victims of injustice? We, the progressive social workers and reformers should form a group of activists with legal experts, judges, police, human-rights workers, politicians, NGOs and active citizens and join in discussions and debates at national level and decide upon a proper

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definition of the word 'terrorist'. An under-trial on charges of so-called 'terrorism' should also be judged after proper legal hearing. In a reign of terror, the state influences the police, army, lawyers and in sheer fright, even the friends and relatives of a person arrested as a 'terrorist' often turn their back towards him. They hesitate to seek the help of law. In the United States or the European Union an under-trial prisoner get proper legal help. If needed, NGOs or Human Rights workers come forward.

In a Terrorist State, there are very few Human Rights workers and their powers are limited. When the state itself is the law-breaker, only one victim out of a million instances, get help from Human Rights workers.

(8) The political parties that create confusion to disrupt proper and smooth election process, or try to use objectionable methods to take away voting rights of citizens, or create an atmosphere of panic at election time, can definitely be termed 'terrorist political parties'.

(9) When a nation is 'democratic' by name and 'terrorist' by nature, the 'terrorist political parties' thrive.

(10) A common opinion is on the rise that a large number of terrorists belong to the Muslim community. They are spreading terror throughout the world in the name of religion; they are instigating less educated and educated alike with the hope of Divine favour



and God's grace to terrorize other communities. The subject does not end here. In many countries even now women are deprived of education and healthcare in the name of religion. In some *purdah* is compulsory, going out alone is prohibited for women. There, if a woman is raped, she is punished with life sentence, the rapist goes scot-free. In Afghanistan, women were threatened with dire consequences if even as much as their hands showed;

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the *fatwa* was that the hands would be chopped off. If these are not 'terrorism', what is?

(11) This forceful denial of legal rights of citizens is 'terrorism'. Be it extortion by police and politicians from pavement vendors, or be it extraction of donation for religious festivals. Regular bribes paid by the highway drivers to the police or the monthly agreement of the vehicle owners with the police stations—all these are instances of 'terrorism'.

(12) a) July 2006: In the ancient Madhav College of Ujjain in M.P., Professor Savarwal was beaten to death by the students of his own college. Police were mute bystanders. The leader of 'Akhil Bharatiya Bidyarthi Parishad', Shashiranjan Akelar was the prime culprit. The silence and inaction of the state BJP Government further encouraged the 'terrorist' students. Shashiranjan got accolade from the students' Parishad.

b) July 2006: Saumik, a student of Shibpur B.E.College in Kolkata, died as a result of student 'terrorism'. The state has no guts to stop this statewide 'terrorism' called ragging in all engineering colleges. The simple reason is that, if action is taken on the miscreants, the students might be displeased with the men in power!

c) August 2006: A girl of MCM DAV College was talking on mobile phone inside the classroom. The lady professor asked her to switch off. The desperate student did not care—the professor gave her a slap. This incident led to a torrent of disruptive activities—a students' strike was called. The professor was forced to apologise. All this happened when there were clear and written instructions not to use cell phones inside classrooms. Is it not 'student terrorism'?

d) July 2006: Meerut University Vice chancellor got a complaint that there was error in checking of answer papers. He ordered for re-examination. This was enough for students to flare up. A group of angry young women raided the VC's residence climbing over a 7ft. high iron gate. They shouted slogans,

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broke flower pots, damaged the scooter in the garage. After being arrested, they told the media—we broke the pots this time; will break the VC next time. From where did they learn this kind of terrorism? What steps will the government take against them?

e) July 2006: It is a small school in Doda district—Nag Batni High School. To punish the small children of his class, a teacher throws acid on their faces. Seven children sustained severe injury with their faces and eyes burnt. Some got 90% burns. Six year old Ali is struggling for life.

These are examples to show the spread of 'terrorism' in all levels of society.

A Report: A sample that shows the intensity of crime committed by the State—

Ananda Bazar Patrika (20 June 2002) gave a detailed report by Saubhadra Chattopadhyay from Imphal, Manipur in Bengali. It is given in short, translated into English:--



June 19, 2002: When he was 14, he was picked up and detained by soldiers of Assam Rifles for enquiry regarding his missing uncle. He was freed after two weeks. For the same reason he was again arrested when he was 17; again at 20. This boy from Uripok, Manipur is now 24. He is an introvert of ill health, cannot tolerate bright light or noise; screams at a particular burning smell, prefers to stay in dark; is scared of strangers; cannot concentrate in anything for more than 10 minutes. He is an

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average, lower middle-class youth of Manipur.

Take the instance of this 16 year old girl from the valley of Manipur. She used to accompany her mother to her liquor-shop where three army *jawans* were regular visitors. One day in her mother's absence they raped her and left a 100 rupee note. Of course they had presented her a lipstick the previous day. This tribal girl now says—she has no desire for sex or love. All she wants now is drinks. Full intoxication is all she desires now.

According to the Tortured Children's Program of an NGO named 'Core', it is not only the tribal population from villages, there are numerous cases of victims from well to do and protected families from towns, that fill the various homes and hospitals. Shantibala Devi, a psychologist from the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital says—during 1996-98 she was in Churachandpur district. Many common people had become hysterical. They were suffering from fear psychosis; were in constant fear of being picked up by army men. Their report says that there was a sharp increase in the number of suicides. The average number of suicides in '97-'98 was 4.4 persons per month and 7 attempted suicides in a month. In '98-'99 the average per month rose to 8. The ratio of men to women was 1:1.

In the year 1997 alone, 416 people were killed by soldiers (men responsible for the safety of citizens), 71 were tortured, 38 went 'missing' and 72 custody-deaths were reported. The president of the NGO, Anna Pinto said that during the last 3 years, atrocities against women rose 300%. And due to excessive tension, the number of drug users, alcoholics and gamblers were also extremely high. In her words, 'most people in Manipur suffer from high blood pressure and insomnia. It is a natural reaction to a life of constant mental tension.'

There is not much help available for people suffering due to torture by security men; leave alone grown ups, even children have no place to go. Anna says, she can give painkillers and such common medicines. Those who

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are too scared to go out alone are given escorts, and some advice at times—that's all. Even NGO workers are afraid of security people and made us promise not to disclose names of victims; because 'in the past, after news about torture was published, the victims were again picked and beaten up'.

In Anna's calculation, there are about 3000 prostitutes in Manipur. Most of them were forced to come in this line. 60% of their clients are again those army men. In an interview to 'Core' a 17 year old Meitei (a tribe) girl said she had AIDS, but she did not disclose it. She does not ask her clients to use condoms—she wants them all to have AIDS.



In a 'Terrorist Nation', the people in charge of the safety of its citizens, do not provide security, they torture and enjoy the fun as they wish. From this sample we can guess that the soldiers in all states

are more or less the same. They enjoy unbridled freedom, have no scruples and are not answerable to anyone.

Terrorists in a train

July 6, 2006: We all have seen the news published in almost all Indian dailies. I give a part of it:--

In Guwahati-New Delhi North East express train, a group of drunken soldiers stripped a passenger from U.P. and ordered others to vacate the compartment. If not, they would also meet the same fate—they yelled. They threw out the belongings of the other passengers and one of them brutally

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tried to practice sodomy with the already stripped Paramatma Yadav from U.P.

Army—Border Security Force—Police—all are made of the same filthy material. Those who are not so are exceptions. After all our favorite slogan is '*Desh ka neta kaisa, Sena-Police jaisa*' (How are our leaders? They are the same as our police and our military').

What is '*Salba Judum*'? An anti-Naxalite people's movement?

'*Salba Judum*' or 'Peace Movement' is a spontaneous people's upheaval against Naxalite terror—this is what our media are feeding us continuously. People know only what the media tell them. We gather from the forum for the protection of citizens' rights of Chhattisgarh that it is the state that has created the organ '*Salba Judum*' to finish the tribal upheaval in rural areas.

A team of 14 went to Chhattisgarh to investigate into the truth about these confusing reports regarding the tribal upheaval for human rights. This team was represented by members of various organisations for people's democratic rights. Among these were members of P.U.D.R. of Delhi, A.P.D.R. of West Bengal, P.U.C.L. of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh and the Indian Association of Lawyers. They conducted their investigation day and night from 28 November to 1 December 2005. Their joint report contains the following phrase in its introduction:-

“When the State makes war on its people...”

The gist of the joint report is that—1) *Salba Judum* is no spontaneous people's movement. 2) The tribal inhabitants of Dandakaranya forests were demanding their rights over the land and the natural resources of the area for quite a some time. Their demands were given an organised form by some activists who fought for equality and justice; it is these groups that are branded as 'Maoists' and Naxalites' by our government. They are leading the

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demands of the poor tribal inhabitants of these undeveloped areas. 3) This movement has actually disturbed the feudal land-owners' interests. These handfuls of rich landlords get the support of the village *sarpanch*, *panchayats*, MLAs and MPs. These politicians are mostly from BJP or the Congress party and these exploiters form the spine of the '*Salba Judum*'. They use the disgruntled anti-social individuals whom the tribal leaders have ousted from their group for corruption. 4) The fighters of '*Salba Judum*' are being trained by the central Para-military force and the state armed police force. They have been given various modern fire-arms. 5) This organised armed terrorism is going on with the joint effort of the Congress government



at the centre and the state BJP government against the extremely poor tribal inhabitants. 6) This '*Salba Judum*' or 'peace-workers' (!) contain 3000 strong non-government armed terrorists who work for the government by proxy. 7)

These private soldiers get salaries equivalent to that of state police officers. 8) A group of 200-300 such soldiers select a village known as a Maoist camp and execute organised attack. 9) They burn and loot the entire village. 10) The destitute survivors flee from their own village; for them the government opens 'relief camps'. To remove the common villagers from the influence of 'Naxalites' they are thus isolated and given shelter in the camps. 11) *Salba Judum* calls for meetings quite often for anti-Naxalite propaganda. In 75% of these meetings the Collector himself is present. 12) Among the tribal villagers there remains a strong support for the so called 'Maoists' or 'Naxalites'. As long as people are in the villages, it is impossible for the government to distinguish between a common villager and a Naxalite. 13) The villagers with the help of their leaders also put up active resistance against the brutalities of

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'*Salba Judum*' 14) people detained at the 'relief camps' are put under terrible mental pressure and physical torture for the names and whereabouts of their 'Naxal' or 'Maoist' leaders. They are threatened that if they did not cooperate they would be arrested, or killed at fake 'encounters'.

A 'terrorist' nation snatches away the democratic rights of their citizens and carries out systematic terror on poor villagers who demand minimum justice. It is the same picture all over the world—from India to Iraq. Only the script changes to suit the character and the set.

During May 2006, a group of people under the leadership of Humanists Nandini Sundar and Ramchandra Guha, carried out a survey. According to them—1) there is no law and order in the state. 2) It is the reign of terror led by *Salba Judum*; they are the law-keepers. 3) The small towns of Chhattisgarh are ruled by *Salba Judum*. 4) Some thousands of villages are identified as 'Maoist villages' and death and destruction loom there with regular loot, rape, killings and arrests. 5) Already more than a thousand people have died in the hands of the soldiers of *Salba Judum*. The killers boldly announce their exploits but get away Scot free. 6) No steps are taken by Central or state government to rescue these poor villagers; the state allows and encourages this reign of 'Terror'.



Parallel 'Terrorist' groups patronised by the State

All over the country wherever there is upheaval of the poor and downtrodden for justice and normal human rights—to tackle them and to isolate them parallel activist groups are made and trained by the government of India.

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Parties change—a new government comes to power. But this notorious practice does not change.

There is a set formula used for deploying these parallel forces. 1) To recruit own people in the activist group. 2) To make a group within the group and buy them with money and promise of power. 3) If needed, to break the group with the help of these 'purchased' members. 4) To add a few mercenary anti-social elements to the group of honest activists. 5) Give special training to these chosen few with Govt. funds. 6) Apparently it is impossible to differentiate between the mercenaries and the real fighters for a cause. 7) The style of functioning differ—the state recruited 'terrorists' carry out explosions in schools, bus-stops, shopping malls, trains, temples and churches. They leave behind leaflets and posters of real activist groups to mislead people and create a bad name for them. Purpose is to destroy public sympathy for the activist groups.

The picture is the same all over India. 'People's Rights Organisation', PRO in short, is a Delhi-based organisation fighting for human rights. They carried out a detailed and long survey on the 'terrorist' groups functioning in the valley of Jammu & Kashmir. As per their report, in the Kashmir valley there are at least 8 'terrorist' groups run by Government funds. The weapons and training are provided by Indian army. Their names are:-

- 1) Ikhwan-e-Muslimeen, 2) Muslim Liberation Army, 3) Muslim Mujahideen,
- 4) Kashmir Liberation Jihad Force, 5) Taliban, 6) Al Burk, 7) Al Ikhwan and 8) Hussain Commando.

These kinds of phony groups are in action wherever there are activists already struggling for freedom or fighting for justice and a basic human living condition, led by some idealistic cultural groups.

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In the year 1996, an all out effort was made by the state to destroy the Rationalist Association. In August 1996, when the rationalist ideology was spreading fast deep inside rural Bengal and was successfully spreading its message of unification of all parties fighting for justice and true democracy, a conspiracy was hatched jointly by state and foreign powers. On one hand a few old members were bribed and removed, on the other hand from 1992-93 a number of smart, young people were introduced into the organisation; they joined the conspiracy later in 1996. Of the active and bright lot of members, it was difficult to discern who came with the purpose of conspiracy and who joined in the dissent later. In this large scale conspiracy, politicians, reporters, astrologers, some NGO operators and god men and women joined together.



But in spite of this the rationalist movement did not die a premature death. A number of honest thinkers, literary persons, scientists, doctors and lawyers came in our support along with numerous common men of different vocations to fight this unequal battle against superstition and spiritualism in India.

One can destroy 'terrorism', with stronger terrorism. But the arousal of a new 'Awareness' cannot be erased with terrorism. That is why a 'Terrorist State' fears cultural upheaval or an awareness movement much more than an armed terrorist movement.

1) The definition of terrorism is so wide that **to resist terrorist attack or to fight for one's legitimate rights are also termed as 'terrorism' by some countries.** Even destroying the computer-system to damage someone's personal interest is also treated as terrorism in some countries.

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Any written document or any statement (written or otherwise) if considered to be against the interests of the state are termed as 'terrorism'. So, new ideas, free thoughts too have to face state opposition at times. Think of Galileo and his torture by the church—even today pioneers of new ideas, free opinions have to face similar wrath from the state. In India, Rammohan Roy to Ishwarchandra Bidyasagar, all had to fight opposition from contemporary religious stalwarts for going against ancient cultures of *Suttee*, or child marriage. They had to go against the mainstream to bring about social change. **In a degenerate society truly progressive people are bound to become isolated and lonely.**

It is the people who are 'terrorists' in the eyes of the state and a vast majority of people misled by the media, who become at times, heroes for the downtrodden masses. But truly progressive and knowledgeable people, however small their number may be, would always support their causes.

2) Wherever there is 'state terrorism', to resist it and to survive, counter-terrorism is likely to emerge. Not that it always happens, but there is a logical possibility. Saddam Hussain's bulldozer of terrorism continued without resistance since 1979. Without proper and able leadership the masses can hardly stand up against oppression.

It is not always true that the masses would have the last word; many a time, in the absence of an able leadership, masses suffer endlessly for years. If there is a leadership, clashes between State and non-state groups are inevitable.

3) People may resort to clashes in an effort to liberate themselves from economic exploitation. In one third of the vast rural terrains of India there is widespread influence of the so-called Maoists and the Naxalites. I collected this information from international news magazines. Actually the exploited masses are not quite aware of the Maoist ideals nor do they know what Naxalism. All these poverty-stricken, oppressed and tortured masses are—

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landless labourers, daily wagers of some kind or unorganised factory workers. Most of them are not paid the wages their employers promise to pay. They have no decent roof above their head; potable drinking water and one square meal a day are their primary requirement. There is no infrastructure for education or medical treatment, no prospects for regular income. If these undernourished people raise their feeble voices for the basic constitutional rights, the easiest way for the rulers to stop them is to unleash a fresh bout of terror. In the presence of state representatives, their 'private army' carries out their 'action' of loot, rape, killing and setting fire to their hutments. The police-politicians-government officials are either silent spectators or active participants in this planned massacre.



The underdogs of the Indian society, the various tribes living in abject poverty have at last learnt to demand justice and the basic amenities of life—thanks to the able leadership of the few progressive and forward youths among them. The rulers are apprehensive—

since it is impossible to uplift all the poor classes without first cleaning up the corruption that is deep-rooted at the topmost strata. Another scaring fact is that these downtrodden masses are demanding their rights over the natural and forest resources; they are uniting—making communes and co operatives and trying to live like humans. These communes work in real democratic way—with proper voting system. If this goes on—the 'modern' methods of rigging, booth jam and false-votes would lose their effect! Even organised state terror would not be able to stop this upheaval. The problem is that our police and army are experts in torturing poor, non-violent villagers; they are

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not so well-versed in tackling armed rebels. If three of these rustic rebels open fire, our one hundred strong army battalion falls—lying on their



stomachs to save themselves. That is why the state prefers making a parallel army with the help of rural musclemen. The city-bred middle classes learn from newspapers that these half naked, ill-fed, poor masses

who do not even get clean water to drink, are dangerous rebels, ‘terrorists’—Maoists or Naxals! This roll of the news-media is in support of the privileged class whose interests would be affected if all the poor people were to demand justice. If a few of those ‘terrorists’ are arrested, kept in jail for years without trial, it would not bother our educated friends in cities. So from economic exploitation to revolt and terrorism of the oppressed and then to ‘state-terrorism’—the circle is complete.

Some say that ‘terrorists’ are those who try to disrupt the economic system of a country. To tell the truth, the corruption of our ministers is enough to disrupt the economy of our country; we do not need any outside help for this. Ours is a country where the ministers give more importance to the amount of kick-backs received than to the quality of defense material; where once politics becomes your profession, you can shift from a hut to a palace within a span of one year and own ten such palaces in ten different cities; where with the active co operation of leaders-ministers-I.P.S officers fake currency

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notes worth tens of millions of rupees can be printed (last time we heard of the astronomical figure-Rs.36, 000,0000000/- worth of fake stamp papers). What was detected was only the stock stored in a certain building. What was not detected has already spread throughout the country and has become a part of our economy. It was impossible to detect them because they were printed with the help of paper and machinery used by the Government mint of Nasik.



Telgi

In the fake stamp-paper scam, one Mr. Abdul Karim Telgi has been caught, and along with him a bunch of government officials. On 22 December, 2002, the Victoria Hospital of Bangalore conducted 'Narco Test' or Narco analysis of this Abdul Telgi. This is the only hospital in India that has this facility of carrying out investigation through which truth can come out. With the help of drugs injected into the body, the person concerned is brought to a semi conscious state, as under hypnosis, and answers questions without being able to distort or hide truth.

Telgi's 'narco test' results had been recorded in camera and tape. Copies of these results have come to the hands of some news-media mysteriously after a period of 2 years and 9 months. On 6 September, 2006, the whole nation witnessed this on many TV channels throughout the day. Renowned neurologists explained that it was impossible to distort answers during a 'narco-test' as the answers come directly from the subconscious mind.

Mr. Telgi's subconscious expressed that along with him in the scam there were heavy-weight leaders like Sharad Pawar and Chhagan Bhujwal. We can guess that this expose was carried out to teach Sharad Powar a lesson as he was distancing himself from the Congress party and getting closer to the BJP. But our question is why the CBI did not take this opportunity to expose such a big scandal? Why more people were not put under 'narco

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test'? Was it because there were possibilities of more names and more unpleasant truths to be excavated? Blackmailing was the only aim!

Many countries have termed this kind of large-scale, 'fake currency note scams' as acts of 'terrorism'—internal 'terrorism' that affects the economy of the entire country. In banks and post offices, experts can detect an occasional fake currency note and the matter is followed up and the racket busted. Most of the time, 'hands of Pakistan' are suspected in the racket. But when the notes are printed for years on government 'security paper' in printing machines used by Reserve Bank of India, 'real' fake notes are produced. Then who would punish whom? The state desists from booking the culprits for years. Now can we not say that the state itself is resorting to an 'economic terrorism'-- exploiting an entire nation?

In this situation, a total upheaval of the exploited masses against state oppression is desirable. Without an organised resistance by the masses such large-scale cleansing is impossible.

Yes, I repeat the words—'organised resistance'. There was a project undertaken to link the entire nation by four massive highways—the 'golden quadrangle project'. Corruption was rampant and large-scale theft was going on during the construction. Narrating the situation a detailed report was submitted to the then Prime minister Atal Bihari Bajapyyee by engineer Satyendra Dubey of Bihar. The letter to the P.M. was in a sealed cover inscribed 'strictly personal'. But to the shock of the entire nation engineer Satyendra Dubey was killed within a few days after sending the letter. How was this confidential letter exposed? Who opened the letter? Was even the PM.'s office infested with criminals? Resistance by an individual does not always succeed. But organised protest usually does. I will give a few examples:--

Incident 1: It was the year 2003. The place was the newly formed state of Jharkhand, adjacent to Bihar and West Bengal. It has extensive dense forest

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areas protected by law. Logging and felling of trees are prohibited; armed security force is deployed here to protect the jungles. In spite of that, under the supervision of 'jungle mafia' groups, ruthless cutting of trees was going on day and night, right in front of the forest guards. No, the guards were not silent spectators; they were participants, they took their share of money from this illegal business. There was a systematic racket—these stolen logs were taken to the local markets, then to the saw-mills. Truck services, saw mills—all thrived during this reign of forest-mafia. The state ministers, secretaries, police, forest and environment departments—all were aware of the situation. Year after year, thousands of millions worth of wood were being stolen from the forests of Jharkhand..



About two years back the so called 'Naxalites' gave a notice in the form of written leaflets – “those who are finishing the forests illegally will be ‘FINISHED’”. Nobody would be spared—guards, saw-mill owners, whoever is directly or indirectly connected to this racket”. The effect was little short of magic. Cutting of trees and the entire market of illegal selling of logs vanished overnight.

Incident 2: During 2004, in Bihar and adjacent Jharkhand, train robberies were regular events. Along with snatching of hard cash and ornaments, molesting of women was also common. Later, the dacoits would boast about their exploits—that is, killing and raping of women in trains.

Once in 2004, after a horrible incident of train robbery, where a number of women were raped, a few of the villagers united to avenge the crime. Next morning in broad daylight, in full view of public, five train-dacoits were shot dead. Two of them were found to be policemen! Those who killed announced before they left—‘yes, this is the punishment—in future, whenever there is robbery or rape, the culprits would meet the same fate’. The villagers told that

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the killers were 'Naxalites'. Whether they were Naxals or not, train robberies in Jharkhand came to an end.

(5) Cultural exploitation too, gives rise to organised resistance by the oppressed community. A good example is that of the birth of Bangladesh. East Pakistan was forced to accept the culture and language of more powerful West Pakistan for years. In spite of a common religion, the people could not accept the cultural difference. To save their own language and culture, the people of East Pakistan struggled and succeeded in separating themselves. 'Bangladesh' was formed.

From Darjeeling to Telengana many small regional political parties have come up. The reason for this in most cases is the need for separate cultural identity. Later these struggles have become violent in many instances. In a 'terrorist' nation, terrorism is the only language understood by the rulers. To ask for social justice or human rights, people resort to pressure tactics through violence. Through armed terrorism even illegal actions obtain legality; we have seen many instances:-



Recently in September 2006, in the 'planned city' of New Delhi, the Supreme Court ordered some shops to close down as they were running their business in places marked as 'residential areas'. There are 'commercial zones' for the purpose. Following the Supreme Court order, the government sealed the shops in the locality. The moment these shops were sealed, all the businessmen of the locality came right onto the street and started breaking cars and buses,

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showering bricks and stones on the policemen who came to stop them. The place literally became a battlefield. Even pedestrians were attacked and the road was blocked completely for hours. The police fired a few rounds; three businessmen were killed. On both sides many were injured. Finally government surrendered to the 'terrorism' of the businessmen who had broken the law in the first place. Government had to make an affidavit to the Supreme Court in favour of the businessmen.

This whole incident gave a very wrong signal to the entire nation. It was—you can do an illegal thing and get away with sheer 'terrorism' creating pressure on the government; you can even change the law to your favour by sheer muscle-power.

(6) In various parts of India, oppression by the Centre is one of the sources of 'terrorism'.

There are seven states in the Eastern part of India—Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal. Even globe-trotting Bengalis do not have the names of these states in their itinerary. Ask anybody from Mumbai to Chennai, they will say West Bengal is the easternmost state of India. Most people of India are totally unaware of the existence of these states. Most citizens of India do not even know what atrocities are being committed in one of these states, Manipur, by the Indian Army. Loot, rape and illegal detention are the order of the day. In the papers and magazines of West Bengal a little bit was reported, but to the rest of India, all these states, with the exception of Assam, are nonexistent. Only 5 MPs are elected from these six states; and there are 545 seats in the parliament! So it is utter foolishness for the government to look after these 'useless' regions. The policy of this election-based politics is to do the utmost for the regions from where the maximum numbers of MPs are elected. Ministers are made from these regions; more funds are deployed in these states. The central ministers are so regionally biased that they do not have any qualms in deploying funds liberally in their own provinces. From Ghani

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Khan Chowdhury to Lalu Prasad Jadav – all have this severe communal outlook. Gaining popularity in one's own state may mean dissatisfaction and grievances in other states going unheeded.

The people of Mizoram or Manipur who are oppressed and exploited in every possible way, find Myanmar a better friend than the Indian government. They carry on all their businesses freely with Myanmar. India is there to find fault, not to help. Indian government to them is like a guardian who cannot feed the child but is ever ready to punish at the slightest pretext. In this situation regional dissatisfaction and State 'terrorism' has given rise regional 'terrorist' activities.

(7) The Islamic extremists aim to instigate the Muslim believers in the name of religion and get them involved in various disruptive actions. Now as nations like USA, Europe and India are uniting against Islamic extremists more Indians have begun to be suspicious about Muslims in general.

We know many eminent Indians like Bade Gulam Ali Khan, Bismillah Khan, Dilipkumar or Md. Rafi were not at all communal; they are respected throughout India. Still, can we say with confidence that a majority of the people of the Islamic community are non-communal? No. That is why even now our country is divided into Muslim areas, Hindu areas etc. Invariably a Muslim voter is made to stand for election from a Muslim dominated area even in Communist West Bengal.

After the nineteen fifties, for a long period of time, the leftist parties demanded a 'common civil law'—that is, the same civil law for all the communities of this country.

After this we saw the case of Shah Banu—when all Muslim men wanted to keep the Muslim Personal Law in tact. It took the shape of a nationwide demand in favour of the Muslim Personal Law. Seeing the situation, the Communists were afraid of losing Muslim votes. They conveniently withdrew from their earlier demand for a 'Common Civil Law' and vanished from the

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scene! All civilised countries have the same civil law for all the people of the country; the Muslims of those countries have accepted it too without protest. Then why the Muslims of India are more communal? Because our government is keeping the Muslim community appeased in the interest of the vote-bank.

Even Congress is purely a communally inclined political party. From the time of Jawaharlal Nehru, Muslims had become his favourites; Indira Gandhi followed suit and happily collected 'Muslim votes' in her



favour. And Rajiv Gandhi narrowed it down to 'Muslim Men-folk' by passing ordinance to turn the verdict of the 'Shah Banu case' in favour of Muslim men. Even the communist parties did not vote against this decision. It was a veritable competition among all political parties to win the Muslim male heart; women did not count. It may be noted that even in Muslim countries, polygamy is not so rampant, nor is '*Talak*' (divorce) as easy as in India.

BJP has earned a bad name as a communal force. But it cannot be denied that it is now a power to reckon with, be it as the ruling party or as the strongest opposition. The main reason for the rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party is the shameless Muslim-appeasing policy of all parties without exception. All other parties like Congress, Communist, Rashtriya Janata Dal (Lalu Prasad), Samajwadi Party (Mulayam Singh) and Marxists blame the BJP for instigating communal feelings. But these parties have miserably failed to keep their own parties out of communal bias.

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Even in Kerala from the Congress to the Communist Party, no one fails to woo the Muslim League, knowing fully well that Muslim League is a communal party. To be a member of the Muslim league, one has to be a Muslim in the first place. Still no one finds it unethical to tie the knot with the League.

If the reader finds the above points logical, he or she should openly say so and expose the true character of all the political parties. The educated Bengali middle class has not made any effort to do it. Along with that one should also uphold the fact that the 'communal' BJP allows non-Hindu members and even leaders in their party.

The non-communal facade of the CPM, the ruling party in West Bengal, is a fake one. Communal groups like Majaheer Sangh, SIMI etc. are collecting money in the name of Muslim extremists, conducting meetings, processions as they like in this state. The government is a silent spectator. They are afraid to hurt the Muslim sentiment, lest they lose the votes of the Muslim citizens. Even the Pakistani extremists are well aware of this fact; that is why it is the easiest to smuggle terrorists into India through the state of West Bengal.

As long as the parties allow unlawful activities in order to woo votes, there can be no respite to 'terrorism' of all kinds. We will have only false slogans fooling the public.

But things were not so bad during the thirties to the sixties of the last century. From the Congress workers to the Naxal youths, all attracted public respect to some extent. Now, all common people know that people connected to politics are nothing but liars, cheats, boastful criminals. That is the nature of the mainstream politicians. People like Muzaffar Ahmed, Binoy Konar and Biplab Dasgupta are now part of history. Now it is the day of hard-core criminals like Lalu Jadav, Sahabuddin and Bablu Srivastav. We have seen

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‘Operation Duryodhan’ and ‘Operation Chakravayuh’ exposing them on TV channels. Some are caught, some not yet. This is the difference. In this atmosphere it is impossible for political parties to sincerely and effectively resist ‘terrorism’.

We common people also are confused at times. We should remember that in the India-Pakistan cricket match the way Indian Muslims celebrate the victory of Pakistan, is similar to the way Indians in England celebrate India’s victory in England-India match. Expression of happiness at India’s victory while sitting in England does not mean hatred for England. But we have heard Indians abusing supporters of Pakistan, asking them to go back to Pakistan. Sometimes it takes the look of a communal riot. This blunt communal division exists in India because the leaders of our country have preferred it that way. The general quality of the political parties needs to change.

To bring about a qualitative change in the political parties, the educated middle-class has to be made aware of the above facts and analyses; a continuous process of awareness program should go on. Clear perception about subjects like, patriotism, secularism, terrorism, separatism etc. should be made available to the people. Only then an organised resistance against corruption can emerge from common citizens’ groups; only then can this politics of double-standards come to an end.

I do not agree with those who are skeptical about any possible improvement in our society. They say—it is useless to try, there is no hope, this is the order of the day, you and I cannot change it overnight, etc. Now let us think—how was our society sixty years back? Senior politicians used to get respect from the common man, there were some ‘idealistic’ people and honesty was given due importance, a scholarly person got more respect than a mere rich man.

With time gradually the society underwent a change. Increasing greed and the resulting corruption of a few gradually brought a general degeneration in

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the society. It is the people who influence and change the society, and then society changes the people. Keeping this in mind we can ask— why then a handful of people cannot reverse the trend and improve the society towards a better tomorrow? Definitely they can.

Getting people acquainted with new ideas, spreading the new ideas among many— these are the materials that make a cultural revolution; a revolution that can change a decaying society into a new and healthier one.



8) In India communalism has erupted on many occasions due to its communal, caste-based, religious and linguistic differences. The common slogan—‘Unity among Diversity’ is a bogus one. Take a man from Nagaland to Tamil Nadu. Would he feel at home? Where is the unity? His food habit, language, dress, everything will differ from the food habit, language and dress of the Indian Tamil—and that would create a distance; he would feel like a stranger in his own country.

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In our vast country due to these differences in language, caste, creed, religion etc an atmosphere of an unhealthy narrowness has spread all around. This narrowness and the resulting mood of mutual suspicion is the creation of our political parties and their leaders.

The example of communalism has been mentioned earlier in connection with Laluprasad and Ghani Khan. But the trend is maintained by almost all the ministers without exception. The ministers do not remember that they are ministers of the entire nation, not of a region. On one hand they instill communal feelings and on the other hand they talk big about national unity. Regional separatism and regional terrorism are creations of these anti-national leaders! All the parties in their dependence on elections have regularly fanned communal feelings and instigated disharmony among our own people.

People who went to Mumbai last year to sit for an examination for jobs in the Railways had to come back after getting beaten up by Shiv Sena activists. Shiv Sena says Maharashtra is for Maharashtrians; only Maharashtrians have to be appointed from Maharashtra. An all India examination called for Non-Assamese applicants too for sitting in an examination to be held in Assam. But the non-Assamese young men and women had to flee after getting badly thrashed by the Assamese people.

Bangali khedao, (drive away the Bengali) was the name of the movement in Assam. Now we hear of '*Oriya khedao*', '*Muslim khedao*', '*Chakma khedao*' etc at regular intervals—and such drives are on the rise. This kind of regional bias has led to innumerable losses by way of destruction of property, rape, loot and killing. There is no end to this kind of regional communalism all over India. But till date have we found any political party making a minimum effort to stop this?

Here we find regional quota for joining the cricket team; a national team. The Chief Minister of West Bengal Buddhadeb Bhattacharya, sent a 'strictly

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confidential' letter to the chairman of the Indian Cricket Control Board Sharad Pawar requesting him to include Saurav Ganguly in the team! As Saurav was not taken in the team, the Bengali communal sentiment was aroused. In the next match, in their utter anger and disappointment, the Bengalis wished for India's defeat, they rejoiced when Rahul Dravid was out, exposing their naked communal nature. It showed us the emptiness of slogans like 'Unity in Diversity'.

9) Even today due to the caste division, a class of people becomes victim of severe oppression by the people of the so called 'upper classes'. Most of them are landless farmers. Some work in sand pits or illegal coal mines. Some work for 16-18 hours a day in stone quarries or brick fields. They are unorganised labourers; so they are exploited to the utmost. If they even talk about their normal rights, their employers' private armies attack their hutments to teach them a lesson—by looting and setting fire to their shanties, raping or killing their folks. This is the ancient Indian tradition.

This tradition began with the coming of the Aryans. The settlers were taught to call the original inhabitants as 'non-Aryans', ('Anarya'= primitive men).

'Untouchability' is a punishable offence. In spite of that, in this 21st century, atrocities in the name of caste-division are rampant all over India. Like a deadly cancer it is destroying our nation from inside.

Great men like Gandhiji, Jyotirao Phule or Ambedkar had fought to establish the rights of the 'low-castes', to give them the right to live with human dignity. But things have not changed. The poorest of the poor are still the so-called 'low castes'; they do not have the minimum dignity of life in our society. Ambedkar struggled for 25 years and failed to change this immobile, inhuman religious custom prevalent in India. Finally on 14 October, 1956, he, along with five hundred thousand low-caste people, formally rejected Hinduism and converted to a casteless religion, Buddhism.

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In 1981, the UNO in its General Assembly declared that any citizen of a member country of the UN has the right to follow any religion or faith of his or her choice. It would be acceptable to the law of that country.



Doctors protest reservation

But in spite of all this, in India, no law or no social reform could save the poor classes from the irrational wrath of the upper-caste citizens. In fact even if, in search of dignity they get converted to Buddhism or Christianity, political parties like RSS or BJP or the people of upper class come down with vehement criticism or harassment. The ruling party Congress did nothing but talk big about the caste war; in reality it had no guts to raise its voice against the oppressive private soldiers of the rich landlords. The constitution says that it is the duty of the government to provide them basic amenities—clear drinking water, healthcare, education to all its citizens. After utter failure to provide scope for earning two square meals a day to its citizens, in 2006, the government is trying to declare a

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reservation of a quota of 49.9% seats in higher education for Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Other Backward Classes. What an atrocious way to appease the poor, to increase the class distinction, to fool the underprivileged! What is the intention of the government? Instead of providing the basic facilities and justice which would have increased the dignity of these oppressed classes, it is enhancing the communal feeling and creating ground for further communal disharmony. The more complicated this caste issue becomes, the more government will try to prove to the downtrodden—‘we are fighting for you’. Without giving the basic justice and primary education, to reserve seats in higher studies is a ridiculous ‘tokenism’ aiming at misleading and cheating the vast number of our poor underprivileged masses. All parties are unanimous in this issue in their desire to gain votes.

10) An Imperialist nation by definition is one that prefers to increase its power and control over other nations. And as a result, it is natural that the nations under it, economically or culturally oppressed by it, would carry on their struggle for freedom. In most of the cases both the parties carry on ‘terrorist’ activities—this is history.

Most of us believe that emperors like Ashoka or Kanishka were great rulers. They had vast empires. At the same time we condemn ‘imperialism’. Not only Ashoka or Kanishka, most great kings wanted to increase their territory. Some of them succeeded, some could not. So, to shout slogans—‘DOWN, DOWN, IMPERIALISM, and to say good things about Shivaji the great king on his birthday, in the same breath, is utter hypocrisy or sheer foolishness.

The Bengali middle-class has an inborn hatred for the word ‘imperialism’. Is the hatred really against imperialism or is it that they are allergic to ‘America’? Probably the latter is true. The name ‘USA’ gives them the creeps. Even the media know about it. So when it was evident during the American

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elections that President Bush would undoubtedly win, the local papers like *Anandabazar*, *Pratidin* or *Ajkaal* went on publishing anti-Bush propaganda by way of survey reports saying that ‘Bush is losing popularity’ , ‘Bush’s defeat is certain’ etc. The papers knew how to please the middle-class and sell the papers. There need not be any truth in the news. Later if the fact

turns out to be just the opposite, it would not matter. These readers have poor memory.

Other English papers had published facts. They knew that printing fiction to please the masses would bring down the credibility of their papers.

In most of the villages and towns of West Bengal we have these Bengali middle-classes for whom Imperialism=America. They cannot stretch their ideas any farther. Only to satisfy this populace our left front government goes on holding meetings and making posters against ‘American Imperialism’. It organises 15 km long procession with tableau to make anti-American-imperialism propaganda. War hungry America is betraying its imperialistic character by sending troops to Afghanistan or Iraq.

When Iraq occupied the whole country called Kuwait, the Left-Front did not make even an inch-long procession in protest. Why? When India sent their army to East Pakistan to help them fight against West Pakistan, did it not expose its own imperialistic character?

The citizens of this great nation probably do not know that:--

Article 1(3) (C) of the Constitution made it clear that the Union of India could acquire foreign territory. Also, “one of the attributes of sovereignty is the

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power to cede parts of national territory if necessary.” (*In re the Berubari Union* AIR 1960 SC 845). The Union could also cede its territory subject to necessary constitutional amendment (*Maganbhai Ishwarbhai Patel v. Union Of India* (1970) 3 SCC 100).

Let us not forget the fact that even when India was under the British rule, there were states that maintained their free status against payment of taxes. They were Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland. But later India occupied these states using various tricks. Was it not a clear instance of Imperialism?

We can see the result of this forcible occupation in the continuous struggle going on in these regions for freedom from this imperialistic rule. The government of India says the people of those states are ‘terrorists’. The people call themselves ‘freedom-fighters’.

In the India under British rule, from Bhagat Singh to Khudiram—all were termed as ‘terrorists’. (Refer to the words ‘*Ugravadi*’ and ‘*Krantikari*’ used by the British rulers and the political prisoners respectively) But do we call them terrorists? Or are they patriotic heroes in our eyes?

In the end we can say that as long as there is imperialistic occupation and oppression by the state, there would be ‘terrorism’ of the people for freedom. Can we not tell the truth? Do we not have the courage to call a spade a spade?

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