

# COMMUNAL RIOTS

## A CRITICAL CONSTRUCTIVE STUDY

Bhiwandi, 11 May 1970

### I

COMMUNAL RIOTS are a tragic legacy from the past British Rule in India. In post-Independent India these Riots are taking a much more sinister shape. During the last two decades many cities, towns and villages have been, and are still being, ravaged before their fiery onslaught. The latest victim is our town of Bhiwandi and adjoining places in Maharashtra.

Apparently these Communal Riots are wrought in the fair name of Religion ; though true religious thought is not even remotely connected with them. For there is but one Religion for the whole world since the World began.

If there is any difference and enmity, it is certainly between Religion and Irreligion, between Truth and Falsehood, between Faith and Faithlessness. If there could be two warring communities deadly opposed to each other in India or elsewhere, they are certainly, in plain words, the Party of God and the Party of the Devil.

They cannot be the hotchpotch, ignorant, stereotyped Hindu communal masses and their prototypes, the corrupt, ignorant, hard-set Muslim masses, in general. Both need a drastic re-classification under the Microscope that determines the True Values of things from the False ones.

For that matter, these Communal Riots between the so-called Hindus and Muslims of India are, perhaps, no worse than some of the well-known clashes between many a pair of opposing elements, both ancient and modern.

To mention a few, take the Jew-Christian, the Roman-

Christian, the Byzantine-Persian, the Jew-Muslim (past and present), the Christo-Muslim, the Protestant-Catholic, the Shia-Sunni, the Aryan-Dravidian, the Brahmin-Scheduled Castes, the Black-White, the Nazi-Jew, the not far ago Anglo-Indian, the Communist-Free World, the Labour-Capital, the Imperialists-the Exploited, the Haves-the Have-nots, the Inter-Nations, the Inter-Parties, the Inter-Castes, the Inter-Communals, and the Inter-States fightings the world over.

I propose to discuss herewith the problem of Communal Riots in India from its very root, in theory and practice, exposing its solid, constructive aspect. Consequently it is going to reveal the Ultimate, Basic Truth for anybody to follow. I feel it an imperative duty and a grave obligation lying upon my head, which I must discharge.

Events move with force and speed and make us move. These nauseating Communal Riots might well prove the greatest blessing in disguise. Sometimes some tragic event is necessary to stir some supreme thought.

Originally, this discourse aims at solving the problem of Communal Riots, which are one of our many national calamities. This is no mean objective. This is not possible too without some sort of a complete revolution, a crashing change in our existing mode of thought and life. Not a bloody revolution, though, but a peaceful one.

Let it be known that it will unfold a plan which, if truly grasped and rightly acted, will avert every other national or international calamity, even including natural disasters like famine and floods, earthquakes and epidemics. For it will strike at the root of all evil, and knock at the fountain of all good in the world. Surely it can bring to our ancient Hind a glory that would redound round the globe.

#### PLEASE KNOW ME

My dear fellow-countrymen! I mean every son and daughter of India. Whatever your caste, creed or commu

nity, thought or religion, trade or occupation. Whether you belong to the Government or the people. Whether you reside in India or outside.

I am a plain Indian, just like you. I like to have a hearty talk with you as plain human beings like me. Never mind whether you are a Hindu or Muslim, a Parsee or Sikh, a Jain or Buddhist, a Christian or Jew, or anybody else.

We want to talk out the question of Communal Riots in India. But please let us forget cleanly these holy Riots for the moment. I want to start a real holy dialogue with you. Of course, so far I am a perfect stranger to you. But before long you will come to know me through this personal talk.

#### A SIMPLE QUESTION

Let us start by asking ourselves a very simple question concerning ourselves, as ordinary creatures of God born and bred in India. Whatever else we might be, but we are all rational beings capable of thinking by our reason, as different from dumb animals.

Let us put that question to our common sense reason for its answer. And here is the elementary question :

WHETHER WE ARE ALL CREATED BY ONE SUPREME GOD, OR BY VARIOUS DIVERSE GODS?

It is just likely that many of you were not prepared for this rather curious question. Perhaps this question has never occurred to you before, nor you heard it from anyone else. All the same what does it matter? Is it not a perfectly logical question, even though a bit unusual? I think it should not offend or unbalance us.

Let us face the question with cool courage. It is an extraordinary question which is going to lead us to a profound discovery. Should we face it squarely and ponder over it, we shall find its answer deeply embedded in our innermost souls. We seem to know it by our instinct, if instinct is left alone unaffected.

All of us realize inwardly, as an axiomatic truism, that only God is the Creator of everything, including ourselves. For we know beyond doubt that we are created beings. And since we are created beings, there must be a Creator who must have created us. We also naturally recognize that this Creator is none but God, and that He is One only.

The question thus opens before us a very fundamental fact about God, the Creator. And although we knew it, most of us were unconscious about it. The act of Creation is our passport to God. We further know that nobody else ever creates anything. In the act of Creation God is unparalleled. He is His own parallel.

#### THE UNDENIABLE ANSWER

The one answer to the above question, as clear as the sun at noon-day, is, therefore, that **WE ARE ALL CREATED BY ONE SUPREME GOD, AND NOT BY SEVERAL DIVERSE GODS.**

Now, my dear countrymen, is not this answer dug out from the depths of your own priceless subconscious mind? You must never underrate this more than a million-dollar answer. It is too vital for your life and safety on this planet.

You have obtained this precious answer by actively using your reason or common sense. Just see what happens if we do not use our reason. If we fail to link Creation with the Creator by inevitable logic, we may see no God and deny Him outright. The result is Atheism, Godlessness, or rank Disbelief.

Our answer saves us from this fearful fate, the basis of Irreligion, the product of sheer thoughtlessness, to which thousands are succumbing. Hence the priceless value of this answer.

This answer leads us direct to the One Eternal Giver of all biological life. It saves us from madly fumbling about for ever to solve the fantastic mystery of "life". We do

not have to give up clear bright light for thick blind darkness, thanks to our reasoned answer.

It saves us from falling into the most senseless theory of Creation being self-grown or self-evolved, running *ad infinitum*, without meaning or purpose. It is an idea which tries to dispense with the existence of God as the Creator, defying all reason and common sense. But plain Reason shall never dismiss God so cheaply. He is too Conspicuous to it through His creation to be denied.

*Please read after line 9 on this page 5 :*

It also saves us from the meshes of the time-worn, distorted mystic philosophy that degrades God by making Him a non-existing Absolute Reality, devoid of all Perfections; identifies Him with His Creation—and especially with man's so-called Real Self—thus creating as many countless gods as the objects of Creation; being unable to contact Him directly, it is obliged to symbolise and worship Him through the means of imaginary idols and images; and ironically regards all this as an Ideal Monotheism—a paradoxical concept of god, consequent theory of endless transmigration of souls and denial of the Doomsday, undoubtedly beyond the reach of all Reason and Common Sense.

Oddly enough, this Poly-Pantheism disregards man's self-evident, intrinsic need for recognizing, loving, worshipping, venerating and ever bowing before Him in humble service and obedience, as his Most Personally Unique and the Most Supremely Exalted, Sole, Living, Sustaining, Perfect Creator Lord, quite Distinct from His entire Creation, Unmixed and Undivided—a concept of perfect Common Sense Monotheism. 5a

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These are some of the pitfalls from which our answer saves us. But these are all its negative benefits. The positive benefits, however, deserve our serious attention.

### MONOTHEISM

My dear countrymen! You have seen how our Reason guides us to recognize our Supreme, Unparalleled, Creator God. This is the best piece of knowledge we already possessed. Our own innate reasoning reveals to us this knowledge about God.

Both Reason and Knowledge are God's own gifts to us for which we feel most thankful to Him. Only He has created us all, and only He has endowed us with Reason and Knowledge.

This genuine thankfulness is the start of God-worship. It is human to repay kindness with homage. Worship is paying one's top homage. God-worship means our highest love for Him and our utmost self-humiliation before Him. This is performed by acting up to everything He loves and appreciates by deeds of limbs and tongue and heart. It is achieved by striving in His Path by sacrificing our powers and wealth and our life itself.

And since there is but One God who has created us, and not two or several gods, we are going to worship Him Alone. This is called Monotheism, or One-God worship. There is no question of our worshipping any other god, since no other god exists.

This, my dear countrymen, is the plain, simple, reasonable and unadulterated Religion for all of us alike. There is no Hindu-Muslim question involved in this bounden duty of man to God.

This is the highest positive value, therefore, of our original Question and Answer. They have landed us into the Greatest Truth for which we are all created — Monotheism, or One-God worship.

### POLYTHEISM

My dear countrymen! Our said Question and Answer do not quit us here. They bring us the highest good on earth, that is One-God worship. But more than that, they also save us from the greatest possible danger on earth.

For it is not enough to worship God, the One Supreme Creator. We have to guard our God-worship against any possible adulteration in it. The Devil is always carving for us many fictitious gods whom we are inclined to worship along with God. This is called Polytheism, Multi-god worship, or Mixed God-worship.

For pure God-worship singles out all our love and hope and fear for God alone exclusively. So when we go to love or hope or fear anything else reverentially, we worship that thing, and thus fall into Polytheism. That is to say we equate that thing with God, by making it share our love and hope and fear between it and God. It amounts to taking partners with God, while God has no partner or equal.

That is an act of sheer Polytheism. So that when we do it, intentionally or otherwise, we are no more Monotheists, or One-God worshippers.

These acts of Polytheism, my dear ones, are as easy to commit as they are subtle to understand. We may go on doing them quite innocently or unconsciously through mere habit, custom or convention. For this reason, only those who are informed and ever alert can guard them-

selves from the danger of Polytheism. And few are they. Most people who do believe in God and who do worship Him are Polytheists in practice. Few are pure God-worshippers.

#### PROOF POSITIVE

My dear countrymen! If you are in doubt about this subtle danger of Polytheism, or if you want to have its proof, just see what is happening all around you in India or outside.

Please be impartial and just see how our enemy, the Devil, has made the Hindus worship thousands of gods and goddesses, known as "Idols" and "Images", "Murtis" or "Awtars", "Spirits" or "Incarnations".

Just see also how the Devil has made the Muslims worship thousands and thousands of domed Saintly Tombs, known as "Turbats", "Mazars" or "Mash-hads", scattered throughout the length and breadth of our land. They are shared in worship even by their Hindu brothers.

And for that matter, just look at the Christian world. Just see how beautifully has the Devil enticed it into his deathly snare! He has inspired the Christian Church, in general, with the idea of the divinity of Christ, their holy Prophet (Peace and blessing be upon him!). See how he has made Christians the world over worship that Prophet as God Himself, or failing that as His Spiritual Son, or Incarnation, or as one of the Holy Trinity! Has the Holy Christ himself ever claimed to be worshipped besides the One God, his Lord?

See, again, how the major part of humanity is busy literally worshipping This World and its materials. And there is a host of many other objects too that are being worshipped besides God the One.

Yet how many Hindus, Muslims, Christians, World-magnates and others are aware and careful about their rank



Polytheism?

### FRIENDS IN NEED

Here our original Question and Answer rush to our signal aid in saving us from this imperceptible but acute world crisis — Polytheism — our Enemy Number One. For they safely assert for us only One Supreme God, who Alone deserves our worship. We know soundly that other-than-God worship, in any form, is a sheer impossibility with Reason, Common Sense, Instinct and Conscience. They are proving to be our real Life-guards.

Thanks to them, they have brought us all together to a common Platform which is tended by our most trusted companions, the good old Reason and Common Sense.

We must also thank our blessed Communal Riots once more for giving us a rare opportunity to discuss this most supreme subject — of God and Religion — ironically in such a calm atmosphere. My heart-to-heart talk with you, my dear countrymen, will now proceed in right earnest.

(To be continued)

ad-Darul-Qayyimah,

Bhiwandi, Bombay

ABDUS-SAMAD SHARAFUDDIN

8 June 1970

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