

I attach a copy of a petition received by this Commission from a number of residents of districts Muzaffarnagar and Shamli of Uttar Pradesh., a delegation of whom from the districts of Muzaffarnagar, Shamli, Baghpat, Meerut and Saharanpur, led by Advocate, Supreme Court Shri Naushad Ahmad Khan and Shri Anis Ex-Minister (Minorities) State of Maharashtra called on the NCM on 10/9/2013 forenoon. They stated

- a) Over 200 Muslims have been killed in the riots starting on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2013. There were pressures from the administration to have the dead bodies buried without post mortem (so as to minimize the figures).
- b) Slogans like 'Ya Pakistan Ya Qabristan' (Either Pakistan or the graveyard) were shouted by Jat mobs.
- c) Over 20,000 Muslims were reported displaced. Those camping in open spaces like Idgah and madrasas are without food and water and their condition is pathetic.

**Genesis:** The genesis of the crisis according to the delegation is different to that appearing in the press. However, an altercation occurred in Village Kamal, Muzaffarnagar District on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2013 between two Jat boys and a Muslim boy. In which the Muslim was killed. A crowd of Muslims surrounded the killers and killed the two Jat attackers. The police are reported to have brought the situation under control and arrests were made on both sides. Jats wanted cases against Jats to be withdrawn.

A 'Jat' Panchayat was then held on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 2013 in Nangla. It called upon Jats to attend the Maha Panchayat and each person to come with a weapon. Among the 1 lakh who attended, despite the prohibitory orders u/s 144 Cr PC, which were not enforced, those said to have been present at the subsequent Mahapanchayat were BJP MLAs, S/Shri Hukum Singh, Suresh Rana, Bhartendu Singh and Sangeet Singh Som, former Congress MP Harendra Malik and Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leaders

Naresh Tikait and Rakesh Tikait. Slogans of “Ya Pakistan Ya Qabristan” were shouted. Flag Marches from the Army were not much help, for, on the arrival of the military, they would be assured by village Pradhan, usually from the Jat community that all was well, but immediately after the flag march things would revert to chaos, and on the moving of the units to different localities killing and arson would resume.

After the mahapanchayat Jats are alleged to have come in tractors and trolleys, attacked Muslim villages in a stretch of 25 kms. indulging in arson targeting places of worship, and killing with Muslim retaliating with stoning. There were also incidents of cross firing between Muslims and Jats. One of the main attacks was on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2013 night when Mosques and Muslim villages were targeted. In Village Harpal Chowki home to Advocate Naushad, the Pradhan is said to have distributed weapons to the Hindus. Mostly women, children and old people were killed, incinerated in burning homes into which they were locked, having stayed in their homes in the hope of protection by neighbours. 31 people were stated to have been killed in four villages alone, namely Lank, Lisarh, Bahawadi, and Phugana all in PS: Phugana. The Station Officer Phugana was reported to have been prejudiced and hostile, and wherever he sent his forces, riots were further triggered.

They praised the actions of DIG Saharanpur, Shri Sudhir Kumar Srivastava who was said to have saved hundreds of Muslims and also the SP Shamli Shri Abdul Hameed who maintained good law and order (incidentally both stand transferred).

After the discussion this Commission is of the view that while these allegations and reports merit close investigation, preferably at the level of a Judicial Commission, which we learn has been appointed, urgent steps need to be taken on the following:

1. There can be little doubt that the first priority is that killing must stop. Since there is a complaint that the Police Stations are unresponsive to calls, we have suggested to Chief Secretary Shri Jawed Osmani that helplines might be established preferably in the offices of DMs/SDMs and Tehsildar, which can pass on information to the police and send help where needed. We learn that this has in fact been done.

2. Food and water must be made available to thirsty and starving refugees. It is learned from Chief Secretary, UP, that the Government of UP has initiated action on this requirement.
3. Dead bodies hastily buried will require to be exhumed and post mortem conducted to establish criminal liability
4. FIRs must be launched in regard to those killed.

The Delegation requested the NCM to approach the appropriate authorities, including Prime Minister in this regard. Accordingly, Minister Minority Affairs has met with the delegation, and I have spoken to CS UP. NCM is also addressing the Home Secretary UP in this regard. We will be following up with a visit to the affected area once the situation has been brought under control.

*(Wajahat Habibullah)*

**Shri Akhilesh Yadav,**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister,  
Government of UP,  
Lucknow

**Shri Sushilkumar Shinde,**  
Hon'ble Home Minister,  
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New Delhi

Copy to: PS to Minister, Minority Affairs, for the information of Honb'ble Minister  
Jenab Rehman Khan

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