

DALIT VOICE

[The Voice of the Persecuted Minorities]

Adviser : Dr. Mulk Raj Anand

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UNITY OF PERSECUTED MINORITIES

Land's End, Kanyakumari dt. of Tamil Nadu, rocked by bloody communal violence between RSS fascists & poor Christian fishermen, has created history from which dalits, persecuted minorities and Marxists will have to learn great lessons. We have to thank the RSS for forcing us to learn these lessons from what is described by the *Statesman* (March 21) as the "guerilla warfare" launched by the khaki-clad "chaddi party" boys of Balasaheb Deoras. Unity comes out of struggle. *Deccan Herald* (March 20) special correspondent after a tour of the riot areas says that RSS attack united Church of all denominations of Protestant Christians & the Roman Catholics. "Christians developed solidarity with the Muslims too. This was further cemented after the Hindu campaign in the wake of the Meenakshipuram conversions in 1981." Not only the Christian militancy has come to the fore for the first time but in this battle against the RSS, "Christians were supported by the Muslims. Various action groups, some inclined to the Vinod Mishra Naxalite group, also lined up behind the Christian-Muslim Front. The CPM's communal alignments in Kerala and its recent policy of cooperation with Christian groups, found it ranged against the RSS. This was a spillover of the RSS-CPM reprisals in Kerala and Kanyakumari was taken as another battleground to settle scores", he says. Many other newspaper correspondents also reported about the unity of Christians, Muslims and dalits in their fight against RSS, which is the common enemy of all the three sections. Our Nagercoil dalit representative while confirming this new, happy development adds that militant Ambedkarites among dalits have also thrown their lot with Christians and Muslims in this Great Divide. He also sends the SOS that dalits fear that the next attack of the RSS will be on them. Many of them are also considering mass conversion to Islam if RSS launches such an attack. The powerful Dravida Kazagam's general secretary V. V. Srinivasan has also lent his full support of his organisation, comprising mostly the OBCs, to those fighting RSS. A resolution to this effect was passed at the anti-RSS conference convened by DK at Madras on March 21. Besides, the Dalit Cultural Front, Madras, convened a meeting to consider the "RSS war on minorities" on March 20 at Madras attended by representatives of the Catholics, Protestants, Mu-

slims and dalits, who decided to form a joint front of all these communities to fight the growing RSS threat. CPM and CPI cadres are also understood to be forcing their leadership to join the anti-RSS battle. Meanwhile, the Gujarat Dalit Panthers held (March 28) the country's first ever joint conference of dalits, Muslims, tribals and Christians. From Patna, we have reports of Jagjivan Ram inaugurating a conference of the very same persecuted minorities including Sikhs and Parsees under the auspices of International League of Minorities. At Nagpur and Nagercoil similar conferences are planned. All these indicate a major development of far-reaching significance. The persecuted minorities are fast-realising the need for joining hands against their common enemy. Such a polarisation of social forces has been taking place for some time. But, thanks to the RSS-led "Hindu unity conferences" that led to series of anti-Muslim riots in Ahmedabad, Poona, Sholapur, Baroda, Aligarh, Belgaum, Shimoga etc. in recent months, such a polarisation got a shot in the arm. At the Madras meeting convened by the Dalit Cultural Front, Christian representatives said their leaders were sleeping all these days when dalits and Muslims were being attacked by the Hindu communal forces. They woke up only now when Christian life, property and Church were attacked. It is only now they are seeking the support of Muslims and dalits. Another important lesson of the TN communal riots, which are spreading to different parts of TN and threatening to cross over to neighbouring Kerala, is that the spectacular growth of RSS (110 shakas in the Nagercoil area alone) is posing a threat to the Left move-

ment. Let it be noted that RSS grows not at the expense of any political party but CPM & CPI. It is for this reason that CPM cadres in Kerala are waging a bloody battle against RSS in which about 100 were killed so far. We have time & again made it clear that we have great respect for Marxism but the upper caste-dominated Left leadership is not interested in revolution. Therefore, this is the right time for the cadres of the Left parties to force the leadership and make it reconsider its stand. CPM boss Namboodiripad has stated that his party would rather join the RSS to fight Cong. I which he considers as the main enemy. In TN too the CPM leadership is said to be sympathetic to the RSS. This is because the RSS and CPM leadership belongs to the same caste. Another important lesson of the TN riots is the growing irrelevance of political parties in India. Cong. I leaders themselves participated in RSS-sponsored conferences. In Kerala, the Cong. I is actively assisting the RSS. A DMK MLA inaugurated a RSS hunger-strike against Christians in Madras. In every party there are people sympathetic to RSS. Upper castes have no permanent parties but only permanent interests. Since RSS represents the interests of both the property-holders and the upper castes, it is but natural that India's business community, landlords & the higher castes finance the RSS. The silence of all political parties including the Left on the current onslaught of the RSS on the minorities has once for all proved that the poor toiling masses can't rely upon parties wedded to electoral politics. Hence the urgent need for a social and cultural polarisation. It is here we have

[Cont. on page 11.]

THE WORSHIP OF (OM) FEMALE ORGAN: SEXUAL BASE OF HINDUISM

(The following interview of Dr. Shamba Joshi, a famous Vedic scholar of Karnataka, was published in the *Indian Express*, Bangalore, on Nov. 22, 1981. The interview, also by a Brahmin reporter, exposes the sexual base of Hinduism and how the entire "sacred scriptures" are sandwiched between penis and vagina. Every Sanskrit pundit knows these scriptures are a bundle of contradictions as very well brought out by Arun Shourie in his book, *Hinduism*. It is only Nirad Chaudhari and Shourie who were the first to make an authentic study of it. Shamba Joshi has been boldly crusading against the anti-human features of Hinduism) :— An 86-year-old frail scholar, working quietly in a sylvan corner of Dharwad, means many things to his beholders. He is Dr. Shankararao Balashankar Deekshit Joshi (popularly known as Shamba Joshi). Dr. Joshi is distinct from the other literary men. All words denoting a god, a symbol or a myth, he argues with etymological conviction, are sexual motifs of a cult which is scared of death and believes that only procreation can answer death's threat by proxy. This has necessitated the suppression of the concept of universality of man and instead project individualism. His latest research discloses that Swayambhu Manu, who is the originator of everything according to the *Vedas*, *Upanishads* and the *Gita*, is an impostor. The original one—Vyvasvata Manu who stands for universality — has been deliberately pushed into obscurity. Successive generations have been denied the existence of this concept of human universality. Explaining his theories about the ascetic cult, he refuses to call it Hinduism, because in his view the word has different connotations which have been given a burial long ago. "I do not have dirty mind. It is not my fault if our scriptures have been conceived with penis and vulva worship to counter the fear of death. In these texts, my etymological tests have led me to discover the obsession with sex. It is the Vyasa-Vasistha line of religious hypnotists who are responsible for this. Take that word *OM* which figures in every one of our scriptures and hymns. What is its meaning? It is *yanī* (vulva). The *naga* pooja offered to a stone slab of mating snake motif by married Indian women is prayer seeking fertility. A collective *bhanamati* (black magic) has been performed on us which binds us to a philosophy conceived ages ago and which has only destructive relevance to our further evolution. What has caused man's fall? Man has become a man (like amoral). The *Vedas* are responsible for this as their true meaning has been distorted. *Guru Brahma*, *Guru Vishnu*, *Guru Devo Maheswara* dominates our learning processes. It commands the disciples to unquestioningly accept whatever the teacher imparts even if they are gross inaccuracies or pedagogic disinformation. The "*Bhaga*"-*vadgita* in its entirety insists that it is the absolute truth and there is nothing beyond to seek. Thus servility is the first lesson taught & also the last. Aping or following has always been the precept. Free-thinking is taboo. Anyone who probes into what his *guru* says becomes a heretic and must be

burnt at the stake. He agrees with Darwin on the 'origin of species' which describes the process of evolution culminating in man. But here again Joshi's disturbing analyses of the ascetic cult makes him go beyond Darwin. Gandhi who preached *brahmacharya*, he said, was obsessed with sex. Mahatma Gandhi throughout his life tried to overcome his sexual impulses and over the years it was the most primary thought in his mind. It was the *Vedas* which distorted the original concepts of humanity and "I will quote chapter and verse to prove this. The scriptures have brain-washed us". Born in the last decade of the century in a Vedic family, Dr. Joshi studied the Vedas and he was kept away from learning English as his elders thought it would corrupt him. Aren't your diggings into the depths of human origin a cry in the wilderness? No, Dr. Joshi is confident that a philosopher would emerge who would be able to throw off the shackles of the ascetic tyranny and take man towards his place in the evolution. He points to the case of Aristotle who rebelled against Plato & blazed a new trail in Grecian philosophy, Dr. Joshi is waiting for an Indian Aristotle. He grimly confesses that there is none in sight now. □

THE HINDU LAW

JAIPUR: A Harijan who had unsuccessfully contested the election for the sarpanch's post in Nedal village, Jaisalmer district, was recently made to wear a garland made out of camel dung by a former jagirdar. This information was given in the Rajasthan Assembly on Feb. 2 by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Brij Sunder Sharma. (*Statsman, Feb 24*) □

CPM-RSS STRANGE BED-FELLOWS IN T.N.

(A. Veerapandian, Tanjore, TN)

RSS of late has intensified its work financed by funds from businessmen and temples. CPM has no programme to check the same though in the neighbouring Kerala, they are at war. Brahmin conferences in TN are nothing but RSS gathering. Last year, a CPM M.L.A. participated in the Brahmin conference at Palani and spoke against reservation. The joke is he himself is a dalit elected from a reserved constituency. Look at Brahmin (CPM) genius. The state-level leaders of CPM and its trade union wings are all Brahmins, the only exception being the recently-elected general secretary, C. Nallasiyam. Probably this is to silence DK leader Veermani's propaganda that CPM stands for communist party of *Manudharma*. In the recently held CPM state conference at Cuddalore, CPM passed a resolution with a Brahmin bias condemning DK for its anti-Brahmin struggle. In the current Assembly budget session CPM member Sankarayyah demanded the banning of DK conferences. So far state CPM has not condemned Brahmins or their leaders Sankaracharya etc. □

UNTOUCHABILITY

Will It Ever Vanish?

by L. R. Bailey,

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PROBLEMS OF MINORITIES : A DALIT VIEW-POINT

(The following is the presidential address of the late B. Shamsunder, founder of the Bhartiya Bhim Sena, at the convention of the All-India Minorities and Backward Classes held on Oct. 12 and 13, 1968 at Lucknow. The text was sent to us by G. M. Pimple Guruji, a noted dalit leader of Nanded, Maharashtra) —

When the British Cabinet Plan was proposed Hindus preferred to rule over India but refused to share power with other minorities over the whole of India. After the partition the Constituent Assembly-elected on a restricted communal franchise, forged a progressive-looking Constitution ensuring Hindus the sole monopoly of power in India to the total exclusion of all other inhabitants. This was achieved by Article 325 of the Constitution which is a sure guarantee that none but the Hindus or their neo-Hindu stooges can get elected to Parliament and other elective bodies. To make this assurance doubly sure, they added Article 329, which lays down :- notwithstanding anything in this Constitution :- (a) the validity of any law relating to the delimitation of constituencies or the allotment of the seats to such constituencies made or purporting to be made article 327 or Article 328, shall not be called in question in any court. By this subterfuge 250 million non-Hindus have been virtually de-enfranchised at one stroke and thus debarred from their legitimate share of power and profit in the land of their birth. Take another example of this totalitarian technique : Article 29 of the Constitution, "Protection of the interests of minorities, para (1) reads : Any sections of the citizens residing in the territory of India or any part thereof having a distinct language, script or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same". How can the minorities ex-

ercise this right effectively in the face of Article 343 and 351 of the same Constitution which impose Hindi language and script on non-Hindi areas ? If the majority community had no evil designs against the language and culture of the minorities, they could have explicitly guaranteed to them complete freedom of their language and culture as embodied in the Constitution of USSR. Mere recognition on paper of the fundamental rights of the minorities, to conserve, what the majority is out to violate and suppress is sheer hypocrisy. During the last 20 years, the minorities have been denied protection of law whenever the majority community, backed by the govt., has chosen to deprive them their lives, honour and properties. They have been discriminated against in matters of service, education and opportunities of gainful employment. Their efforts to organise themselves for the purpose of obtaining redressal of their language, script and culture are facing planned suppression. □

ANNOUNCEMENT

We regret to note that some comrades have not remitted their yearly subscription of Rs. 10. We are bringing out the journal with great difficulty. We need your support. Subscription through MO may be sent to the DSA address given on page 12.

PUBLISHERS.

Letters to Editor :

Prof. Raosaheb Kasbe, Sangamner, Maharashtra : DV is the need of the time to propogate the line of thinking to which you are committed. I will recommend DV to my friends. My Marathi book, ZOT is yet to be translated to English. If there is a suitable person, you may recommend.

N. PremKumar, Ambedkar Assn., Nagercoil, TN : DV is very much welcomed in this area. The Dalit Sahitya Akademy literature and DV is circulated among our people.

S. P. Rana, Deesa, Gujarat : The Karnataka Govt. has declared April 14 (Ambedkar Jayanti) as a public holiday. We want to press Gujarat Govt. to follow your example.

M. C. Ashmella, Bombay : Your Bombay visit was very useful to dalits. Your Dharavi speech to Dalit Panthers on Jan. 21, 1982 was a historic one.

S. Mohandas, Nagercoil : Kanya Kumari dt. is highly polluted with communal riots. After the Mandalkadu incident, we had so many riots. Very high loss of property. RSS is playing havoc with minorities and dalits. After the attack on Christians, the next attack is expected on us.

Fr. D. S. Amalorpavdass, director, National Biblical Catechetical and Liturgical Centre, Bangalore : I have gone through DV and quite pleased with it. Through the DV, you have become the voice of the voiceless and the initial power of the powerless. The main thrust of our centre is to work for social justice, liberation of the oppressed.

Ghulam Sarwar, Ex-Minister, Bihar (International League for Minorities) Patna :

Tears rolled down my cheeks as I went through the DV. Ours is a non-political venture to unite dalits, tribes, Muslims, Christians and Sikhs — the persecuted minorities.

M. A. Rasheed, Bangalore : I am a regular reader of DV and always eagerly wait for the copy. It is a revolutionary journal giving a timely warning to dalits and minorities. I very much appreciate your boldness, courage which other journalists lack. I appeal to all persecuted minorities to support DV and spread its message far and wide. How I wish DV is published in Indian languages as well.

P.R. Kuppuswamy, advocate, Karur, TN: Congratulations on winning your case against the *Indian Express*. Join the duty formally, draw all the arrears and then kick the job since your job is elsewhere and not inside the four walls of the Express empire.

A. Veerapandian, Tanjore, TN : I read in the *Viduthalai* about your success in the case against the *Indian Express*. Congratulations. To me it appears as a simple case of Brahmin-non-Brahmin struggle in real life.

Manmohan, New Delhi : I liked DV very much. You are raising the voice of the dalits. But dalits can be better organised on "class lines" instead of caste lines. But I don't consider CPM, CPI as real communist parties. In India, only the SUCI is the real revolutionary party.

Feizuruddin Ahmed Sazban, Jiribam, Manipur : I warmly greet DV and admire its courage to speak the truth. When we read DV, it simply makes us burn with anger against the atrocities on dalits. DV deserves all-out support from all minorities & dalits. In Eastern India, we belong to a backward, persecuted group.

Veagar Ahmed, New Delhi : Congratulations for airing such a bold voice and projecting the problems of the weaker sections. I am very much impressed by your analysis of various causes of the burning dalit and Muslim problems. Keep it up. Wishing you a bright and great success.

N. Elangovan, Cuddalore, TN : On 28-2-1982 the Vanniyars, an OBC community of TN, took out an impressive procession demanding 20% reservation for themselves out of the existing 50%. These OBCs are behind caste atrocities on dalits in TN. At the public meeting at Cuddalore, the Vanniyars criticised dalits. How can these OBCs fight the high castes when they are not good to dalits ?

N. A. Sulaiman, Kasargod, Kerala : A leading Malayalam weekly, *Prabhodanam*, recently carried a question from a reader about DV, its address and annual subscription. The editor answered all these queries. This shows the popularity of DV.

Amarjit Singh, London : Mrs. Indira Gandhi came here and Dalit Mukti Alliance tried to picket her meetings. We want to protest against killings of Untouchables in India.

Pierre Mouterde, Qubec, Canada: Thank you very much for enlightening me on the problems of Untouchables. Wishing your struggle all success.

Dr. M. A. Faruquee, Lachman Kunta, Orissa : I am delighted to write that DV is a unique experiment of its kind. Your stand is excellent.

Pulavar RP Ramachandran, Kaveripatnam, TN : Your precious editorial, "Bid to Throttle Christians in India" (DV No. 1) reproduced in the *Message*, the official organ of the All-India Catholic Union, in its Dec. issue shows that the Christian

world is very much indebted to you. The editorial in every issue of DV and its articles are to be treasured by our Untouchable brothers. We are with you.

Jose Kananaikil, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi : I finished my Ph. D. at the University of Chicago. My thesis was on "Reaching Inward From The Periphery : The Experience of the Scheduled Castes in India". In this thesis, I have tried to analyse the problems of the SCs as a marginalised group in India and the problems of the Christians of Scheduled Caste origin. I am revising my thesis for publication. I congratulate you on the commendable work you are doing through *Dalit Voice*. We will have many occasions to cooperate in our work.

Tirlochan Kumar, Barnala, Punjab : Best wishes for the progress of DV and eagerly wait for the day when it is converted into a weekly. We have gone through its daring articles/editorials and appreciate its attempt to awaken the downtrodden. If we, educate dalits sincerely & want to help the rest we must have to strengthen the press which is dedicated to shape the destiny of dalits. Supporting this type of press is the best way to realise the dream of our messiah, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, i.e. educate, organise & agitate. This is also a part of our agitation and hallmark of our awakening. Hindu press is befooling/exploiting dalits. Hence promotion of a dalit press is the dire need today. DV should be converted into a weekly very shortly and it is upto us to get it converted into a daily.

Nagendra K. S., Hyderabad: What appears in DV is of utmost importance to dalits and minorities. But how many have the power to correctly understand it? The editorials need to be translated. Hence the need for DV in Indian languages. □

TAMIL EDITION OF DV FROM MADRAS

Dalit Sahitya Akademy is glad to announce the launching of the first language (Tamil) edition of the *Dalit Voice* from Madras to coincide with the birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on April 14. *Dalit Kural*, the new fortnightly, will fulfil the wishes of our Tamil-speaking dalits & persecuted minorities. To begin with, the journal will be "For private circulation only" until registered. R. Elumalai, convenor of the Dalit Cultural Front and a young, militant, dedicated Ambedkarite, who is our Madras representative, has consented to be its editor. We hope our comrades in TN—dalits, OBCs, minorities, women, leftists, rationalists, students & the toiling masses as a whole will welcome this new journal. We also seek the support of Marxists, Dravida Kazhagam, Naxalites and all those radical interests in the universities, offices, fields and factories. Tamilians have been traditionally the intellectual leaders of India, thanks to the foundation laid by Periyar E. V. Ramaswamy through his revolutionary philosophy. They have given the greatest support to DV which has the highest circulation among the Tamil-speaking people whether they are in TN, Bangalore, Bombay or elsewhere. In every respect Tamilians have proved to be far ahead of others. Dalits elsewhere have to learn many lessons from Tamilians. The very fact the Tamil dalits came forward to start India's first-ever language edition of DV proves the virility of this purest non-Aryan people of

India. We thank Tamilians for showering so much of love and regard on DV and the work of the DSA, reposing so much of confidence in us. And we assure them that we will do our best to live up to their expectation. In return, we want to impress that this land of Periyar, which has been first in everything, should also hit another first by becoming the leader of the Indian revolution. DV is just a six month-old baby. Within such a short time this tiny but unique experiment has received quite a good response. It is indeed a dream-come-true. The "letters to the editor" column indicates that the readers have been impressed by our sincerity, dedication and commitment to the cause of revolution. Politics is not our playfield. Parliamentary politics has strengthened the ruling class exploiters & reduced the exploited to the level of beggars. It is only social and economic change that will lead to political change and not vice versa. While we are overwhelmed by the spontaneous outburst of affection from the dalits, persecuted minorities & foreign comrades we are not satisfied with our progress. We have a long way to go. Every month we are incurring losses. No publication can thrive merely on circulation revenue. Advertisement income alone can save us. We appeal to our well-wishers to support us so that we can serve you better. All those working for social change—dalits, leftists, minorities—shall count on our support. It is the *Dalit Voice*. □

CHRISTIAN PROTEST: Shillong: Catholics of north-eastern India, and Christians of other denominations held a massive public rally here on March 15 to protest against the man handling of the Catholic Bishop of Silchar and two religious personnel of the Holy Cross School of Silchar in the bishop's house on Feb. 19. (*Statesman*, March 14.) □

R.S.S. BEHIND KANYA KUMARI RIOTS, SAYS D. K.

Madras: At a press conference held at the Periyar Thidal here on March 15, K. Veeramani, general secretary, Dravidar Kazhagam, dealt about the Mandaikadu religious riot. Till now, no Hindu-Christian clash had occurred in southern districts. Christians and

Hindus had cordial relations. There were cases while the husband was a Christian his wife was a Hindu or vice versa. For the religious riot, they cite the temple festival as the reason. The celebration of the temple festival is not a new thing occurring this year alone. The mass conversion of Meenakshipuram could not be connected to the Mandaikadu affair. Minister S. N. Rajendran and P. H. Pandian, Deputy Speaker of TN Assembly, participated in a function in which 2,500 Hindus embraced Christianity. Had any religious clash taken place then? The religious clash at Mandaikadu was only at the instigation of the RSS. Recently, the general secretary of the RSS had said that Kanya-Kumari district was their stronghold. Not only that, at Negercoil they had held a conference to demonstrate their growing strength. The Madurai Mutt head who participated in the conference delivered a reckless speech. He assured them that he would give the lands belonging to his Mutt on lease for 99 years to spread Hinduism. The Mandaikadu clash had taken place against this background: The MGR government is mainly responsible for RSS getting so courageous. Minister R. M. Veerappan is responsible for encouraging RSS. He has himself become a propagandist for Hinduism. He has declared openly that he had taken pride in calling himself a Hindu. He had asked why this country should not be declared a Hindu country? Even Chief Minister MGR has once asked why there should not be RSS when there was Muslim League. The Lea-

gue is there only to protect the rights of the Muslims who are in a minority. Unlike the RSS, they have not claimed that this country should become an Islamic state. If you closely study the speeches and the conduct of the TN Ministers one thing could be clear that they go against what they were sworn in as ministers. They go against the very principle of secularism. Because of the TN govt. support, the RSS gets emboldened. The Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peeta is of late openly propagating one thing. What is it? Recently he has spoken at Madurai that the Hindus irrespective of their party affiliations "should become members of the religious national organisation". What does it mean? Does it not mean an open call to all to join the RSS? The Sankaracharya while opening an RSS unit in Andhra Pradesh praised the activities of the RSS. Taking advantage of these favourable situation, the RSS in TN is creating religious clashes. The govt. should impose punitive tax in areas where religious clashes take place. □

Ambedkar Varsity

Bombay: The demand of renaming Marathwada University after Dr. Ambedkar has been renewed by a new organisation which has assumed the name of "Dalit Liberation Army". In a statement Prof. Jogendra Kawade, who has signed as "commando chief of the Dalit Liberation Army", said that if the new chief minister, Mr. Babasaheb Bhosale, continued the "anti-Ambedkar" policy of the three former chief ministers, "the Dalit army will have to launch an agitation against the new chief minister". (*Times of India* 2-1-1982.) □

DALIT-MINORITY TEAM TO STUDY T. N. RIOTS

(Our correspondent)

Madras : A three-man study team headed by R. Elumalai, convener of the Dalit Cultural Front, Madras, will visit Kanyakumari district and other areas of TN affected by the recent bloody RSS-Christian clashes. This decision was taken at a meeting convened by the Front here on March 20. The team will include a representative of the Muslims and Christians. The meeting, presided over by V. T. Rajshekar, editor, *Dalit Voice*, was attended by R. Rubin, representative of the Archbishop Arulappa of Madras, Barrister E. P. Devadasan, Rev. M. Azarizh, general secretary, Church of South India, Synod Secretariat, Madras, Moulana Abdul Karim

Parikh of Nagpur, Prof. Mir Jafar Ali of Bangalore, Ezaz Ahmed Aslam, Mustafa, Raju Thomas, Prasad, general secretary, State Bank Dalit Employees Assn., and representatives of dalits, Muslims & Christians. K. Veeramani, general secretary of the Dravida Kazhagam, Dr. Dayanandan Francis, general secretary, Christian Literature Society, Madras, Dr. Johnson, Director, Gurukul Theological College, Madras, had sent their good wishes. The study team report in English will be printed and distributed all over India. Speakers at the meeting referred to the growing RSS threat to minorities and dalits and stressed the urgent need for unity of these three persecuted minorities. At the March 21 anti-RSS conference of the DK, Veeramani moved a resolution to condemn the RSS role in the TN communal riots. □

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[Editorial-Contd. from Page-2]

to consider India's only problem sector: the vast OBCs. It is these sections, comprising over 40% of the Hindu population, who are used by the RSS to attack dalits, Muslims and Christians. In the TN riots it is the backward Nadars who attacked the Christians. Elsewhere it is the Thevars, Vanniyaars, and Padayachis, all OBCs, who are attacking the dalits & Muslims. This is the case all over India. The OBC leadership should impress upon its masses that it is the Hindu upper castes who are opposing the Mandal Commission report that recommended reservations to OBCs. The opposition is not from dalits or minorities. On the other hand, they have joined agitations demanding reservations to OBCs. It was Dr. B. R. Ambedkar who provided for reservations to OBCs. So it is for the OBC leaders like Veeramani etc. to educate the masses. Let the high castes, who also belong to the rich class, go with the RSS. Their social and economic interests will be safe in the hands of the RSS. This necessarily means dalits, tribals, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs & of course the OBCs—comprising over 70% of the Indian population—should be on the opposite side. The rulers Vs the ruled. The Church, both the Catholic & Protestant, must immediately set its house in order. Because, TN riots have brought the cracks in the Church to the open. The Nadar Christians in KK dt. joined their Hindu Nadars in attacking Christian fishermen. To the Christian Nadras, blood became thicker than water. The Church got divided on caste lines even during such a crisis. Some Bishops belonging to higher castes refused to sympathise with the plight of their suffering co-religionists. RSS naturally exploited this

cleftage to the maximum extent. This is a serious reflection on the state of the Church in India. The Church will have no right to criticise Hindu communalism as long it is practising caste within itself. As days pass RSS with its myriad front organisations is bound to emerge as the most powerful organisation in India. Funds, no problem. Right now it has crores of rupees in its coffers. It has arms & ammunition. A sympathetic press. Foreign contributions. More than anything, the entire ruling class to beef up. Therefore it is bound to ride the waves. From Madhya Pradesh we get reports that RSS is busy Hinduising the tribals. Only in the North-eastern India it is meeting with a setback. Whatever it is, RSS has a big future and this will be only at the expense of democracy, socialism & secularism, which are dear to the hearts of dalits, tribals, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs & OBCs. Hence the need for all these persecuted minorities to unite in a joint front against its common enemy. □

MUSLIMS BECOME HINDUS

TIRUPATI: About 1,500 Muslims in Rajasthan have re-converted to Hinduism, according to Viswa Hindu Parishad Southern Zonal Secretary K. Sathyanarayana. He told newsmen here that the Sisodia Association in Ajmer District had recently agreed to take back in their fold those converted to Islam in the wake of Muslim invasion. The Parishad, he said, had launched a programme to collect Rs. 10 crores for the protection of Hinduism. "Like-minded organisations like the Rastriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) and the Arya Samaj are being involved in this national-level programme, he added. (Deccan Herald-Feb. 27) □

TRIBAL REVOLT

Mysore : Tribal people may soon rebel against civilised invasion of their culture, according to Dr Usha Deka, a noted anthropologist. Speaking on changing system of the tribals in India, delivered at the 69th session of the Indian Science

Congress here, Dr. Deka said the tribals are being de-tribalised mainly due to rapid industrialisation, construction of hydro-electric projects and road-building in the areas of their inhabitation. *(Indian Express, 7-1-82.)* □

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