The major methods used by the Pakistanis to torture the Bengalis were: 1) verbal abuse coupled with beating until blood oozed out, 2) poking with bayonet or beating with rifle butts after hanging the victim by the leg from the ceiling, 3) the victim was stripped and kept standing for hours in public 4) burning the whole body with cigarette, 5) pushing needles through nails and the head, 6) spraying injuries with salt and chilli, 7) pushing electric rod through the anus, 8) giving urine for drinking when the victims screamed for water, 9) pushing ice through the anus or injuring the entry point of the anus with cigarette burns, 10) the victim, with his hands and legs tied, was put into a gunny bag and kept under the scorching sun, 11) keeping the injured's naked body on ice slabs, 12) denying sleep for days, high powered lights focussed on the eye, 13) giving electric shock to the sensitive parts of the body, 14) uprooting nails with the help of tweezers and 15) the head was repeatedly forced into hot water with the body hanging from the ceiling. Besides, extremely brutal sexual torture towards moth men and women was also very common.

Many accounts of brutality of Pakistani occupation army and their local collaborators were published in the international media that horrified conscious and aware people across the world. A report published in *Newsweek* on June 28, 1971, titled "The terrible blood bath of Tikka Khan", quoted Tony Clifton, a correspondent of *Newsweek*, who visited some refugee camps in Agartala of India. Clifton wtote:

"Anyone who goes to the camps and hospitals along India's border with Pakistan comes away believing the Punjabi army capable of any atrocity. I have seen babies who have been shot, men who have had their backs whipped raw. I've seen people literally struck dumb by the horror of seeing their children murdered in front of them or their daughters dragged off into sexual slavery. I have no doubt at all that there have been a hundred 'Mylais' and 'Lidices' in East Pakistan -- and I think, there will be more.

My personal reaction is one of wonder more than anything else. I've seen too many bodies to be horrified by anything much any more. But I find myself standing still again and again, wondering how any man can work himself into such a murderous frenzy."

Quoting other eye-witnesses of the Bangladesh holocaust, *Newsweek* wrote, New Jersey Congressman Cornelius Gallagher, who visited the Agartala hospital, says he came to India thinking the atrocity stories were exaggerated. But when he actually saw the wounded he began to believe that, if anything, the reports had been toned down. A much-decorated officer with Patton in Europe during World War II, Gallagher told me: "In the war, I saw the worst areas of France, the killing grounds in Normandy, but I never saw anything like that. It took all of my strength to keep from breaking down and crying."

Other foreigners, too, were dubious about the atrocities at first, but the endless repetition of stories from different sources convinced them. "I am certain that troops have thrown babies into the air and caught them on their bayonets," says John Hastings, a Methodist missionary who has lived in Bengal for 20 years. "I am certain that troops have raped girls repeatedly, then killed them by pushing their bayonets up between their legs."

All this savagery suggests that the Pakistani army is either crazed by blood-lust or, more likely, is carrying out a calculated policy of terror amounting to genocide against the whole Bengali population.

The Pakistani army junta would not have been able to unleash such atrocities without the active help and cooperation from the political parties named Jamaat-e-Islami Muslim League and Nizam-e-Islami Party. It was the Jamaat-e-Islami, the religio-political party led by Ghulam Azam, who from the very beginning extended all kinds of moral and physical support to the Pakistan army in their genocidal act by holding meetings and processions, writing articles in newspapers and forming killing squads like Razakar, Al-Badr, Al-Shams, etc.

The whole world burst into condemnation on March 25, 1971 when the infamous General Tikka Khan initiated a trail of genocide on the innocent people of the then East Pakistan. When everyone was awed and thunderstruck at the inhuman attack inflicted upon the Bengalis, Ghulam Azam met Tikka Khan on April 4, 1971 to assure the latter of his full support and cooperation (*The Purbodesh*, April 5, 1971). Ghulam Azam had another intimate meeting with Tikka Khan the next day, following which Ghulam Azam labeled our liberation war a blatant act of "Indian interference and infiltration" and declared, "patriotic people of our province will help the armed forces to counter and destroy the evil designs of India". (*The Dainik Pakistan*, April 7, 1971).

As a first step to help the Pakistan Army, Ghulam Azam formed a "Peace Committee" on April 10, 1971. The main objective of forming