'Hindu or Muslim' this Question Asked by Whom

CHINTITO

They ran in 1971, and they are made to run now.

Some have left their abode, or whatever was left of it, for this was not the first time they feared more for the chastity of their daughters than for their own life.

Many spent nights on midstream boats for fear of attacks by cowards belonging to political parties of shades as opposing as that adorning sheaves of paddy, the symbol of justice and boats that ply on those very waters.

Infiltrating in the shameful mayhem were apolitical chickens. They too had joined the labelled politicalmafi as in sporadic picnics to strike a personal vendetta or to grab land, sadly often in the guise of religious morality. We ask what religious morality?

The despicable attacks at several places across the country on the minority Hindu communities, living for centuries on their land, are reminiscent of similar violent assaults after the national elections of 2001. The blood thirsty scoundrels this time synchronised with the recent 2014 national elections their lust to burn houses, plunder property and terrorise an innocent population.

It is unfathomable why a bunch of zealots out of nowhere will think it proper to raid and set alight a village during election *hungama*. There can be no basis for such gutless attacks. Most definitely there is no promise of any reward from Allah swt or the possibility of any recommendation from Prophet Mohammad pbuh, if that be the secret agenda of the spineless attackers.

The poet who scripted in Bangla:

'Allah is my Lord, I have no, no fear

My prophet is Mohammad, whose praise is worldwide

What is my fear?

Quran is my drumbeat

Islam is my religion, Muslim is my identity'

also wrote in Kandari Hushiyar in Bangla,

'hindunaoramuslim?' oijiggashekonjon? kandari! bolodubichemanush, shontanmor mar

('Hindu or are they Muslim' questions which person?

Say Captain, 'sunk have people, the children of my mother)

Author of the above lines, our national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam (1899-1976), who inspired Muslims of India against the British, sang songs of unification in the community when riots broke amongst Muslims and Hindus of India. In Manush in Bangla he lamented:

"Who are they– hating human beings?

Yet kissing the Quran, the Vedas, the Bible?"

There is no scope for religious hostility against peaceful non-Muslims as per Quranic law. Allah swt guides Muslims to tell non-Muslims in Chapter 109:

"O you who do not believe! I worship not what you worship, and you are not worshipping what I worship; nor am 1 worshipping what you worship; neither art you worshipping what I worship. Therefore, to you your religion; and to me my religion!"

The holy Quran clearly says that religion cannot be forced on anyone because "...there is no compulsion in religion..." (2:256)

When Prophet Mohammad transformed from a religious leader in Mecca to also a political leader on his migration to Medina, a constitution was installed, the first article of which stated that all the inhabitants of Medina, the Muslims as well as the Jews, Christians, and the idolaters who had entered the pact were recognized as citizens of one Medina nation regardless of religion, race, or ancestry. Divided among warring tribes as Medina was, the system that Prophet Mohammad established in Medina ensured the simultaneity of existing pacts of alliance between individual tribes, but all the tribes had to come under the purview of the Act that they all agreed to. So much so that any attack on another religion or tribe was considered an attack on the state and upon the Muslims as well.