# SECULARISM UNDER SIEGE

# The Ayodhya Tragedy In Retrospect And Prospect

Edited By: Prof. S. A. H. Haqqi

# U. P. RABITA COMMITTEE

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Dedicated

To

Those Who Are Striving

For

The Creation of a New Civilization

In India

Wherein Shall be Secured

To All

Without Distinctions of Caste and Creed, Status and Sex

The Blessings of

Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity

Assuring

Dignity of the Individual and Unity of the Nation

#### CONTENTS

Foreword	d
Acknowl	edgments

Introduction

#### Section I

The	Chall	enge (	of H	indutva
-----	-------	--------	------	---------

1-28

Savarkar's Doctrine of Hindutva

Sanatan Dharma is Nationalism

Probing The RSS Mind

Hitler And Golwalker: Chips of The Same Block

Two Bibles of Fascist

Exclusive And Aggressive Nationalism

Special Report On The RSS

Barely Disguised Communalism - M.J. Akbar

Clarion Call For Hindu Rashtra - Kanchan Gupta

Sadhu Power In The Service of Hindutva - Saibal Dasgupta

On The False And Anti-national Message of Hindu Chauvinism

#### Section II

#### **Use And Abuse of History**

29-70

City of Ram: A Reality Or Myth - R.L. Shukla

Rama And His Birthplace - Suniti Kumar Chatterjee

Mandir or Masjid - Sushil Srivastava

The Origin And Development of Janamsthan Myth X-rayed - Sher Singh, IAS

Looking For The Temple - R.S. Sharma

Falsyfying History - Khushwant Singh

Hansbaker Findings ()n Babri Masjid

Ayodhya: The Political Appropriation And Abuse of History

Guest	Cal	led	Invado	r
	~		ATT A CT CT	"

Babri Masjid Site Unfit For Temple Construction

Babri Mosque Built ()utside The Boundary Wall of Ayodhya

Solid Kankar Called Broken Image of Boar

The Ramayana Through The Ages

Ayodhya: Questions of History - K.P. Prakasam

Ayodhya Discord Is CIA Handwork - Lokpati Tirpathi

Ayodhya Not Ram's Birthplace - Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay

Basic Question in Babri Dispute - Irfan Habib

#### Section III

#### Communalisation of Politics

71-94

Millitant Revivalism - Inderjit Badhwar, Prabhu Chawla and Farzand Ahmad

Arun Nehru And Ayodhya

Buta Acts Mischivously - A.G. Noorani

Hindu Chauvinism - R.C. Srivastava

I Cannot Trust The Minorities - Rajendra Singh, RSS G.S.

A Travesty of Hindu Dharma - Madhu Limaye

VHP's War Cries

Divided Over Ekta - Suneet Vir Singh

Muslim Get Raw Deal in Kalyans's Regime - Radhika Ramashesan

Both BJP And Muslims Must Introspect - Tariq Hasan

Communalism Played Major Role In U.P. - Ajay Singh

On The Communal Situation

**Defusing Time Bomb** 

The Congress And The BJP - Geeta Puri

#### Section IV

**Black Sunday: Reactions And Reflections** 

95-144

Eirct.	Citizens	Acto	Circt.
LILL	Citizens	ACIS	LILZ

The Republic Besmirched - Editorial Times of India

A Nation Betrayed - Editorial Indian Express

Unforgivable - Edito: ial The Hindu

A Time To Prevent Further Damage To The Nation - The Pioneer

National Shame - H.K. Dua

Glorious Fabric Damaged - National Herald

Outrage At Ayodhya - Sitanshu Das

BJP's Costly Blunder

The Day of Ram's Tigers - Ravi Shankar

The Great Catastrophe - N. Ram

Hindu-Muslim Divide - Raj Chengappa

Muslims Advised

Muslims Must Join Hands With Secular Hindus

National Honour At Stake

A Resilient Republic - Dileep Padgaonkar

Demopcracy In Peril - A.G. Noorani

Ayodhya White Paper

Just A Pinch of Honesty - Rajmohan Gandhi

Forgo Rituals On Republic Day - Dileep Padgaonkar

An Open Letter To The President Of India - Prof. M.N. Faruqui

Are Indian Muslims Appeased? - N. Bhandare, L. Fernandes and M. Jain

#### Section V

#### The Great Betrayal

145-178

The Shame And Aconvill Assettor

A Nation's Shame - Dileep Awasthi

Shame At Ayodhya - Sukumar Muralidharan

Dateline Ayodhya - Venkitesh Ramakrishnan

Mosque Demolished By Sena

Nation Bleeds

Politics of Upheaval - Inderjit Badhwar

Kalyan Talks of Civil War

Tissue of lies - Dilip Awasthi

Games in U.P. - Venkitesh Ramakrishnan

Masters of Deception - Inderjit Badhwar and Yubaraj Ghimire

We Will Not Recognise Minorities

Another Mosque Was Turned Into A Temple

Conspiracy To Demolish Mosque

Congress (I) BJP - To Blame - Mulayam Singh Yadav

We Will Not Shrink Our Duty - Arjun Singh

#### Section VI

#### Ayodhya And The Judiciary

179-210

Judgement Of The Suit Relating To Janamsthan Chabutra 1886

Order Of Civil Judge 1951

The Shame And Agony Of Ayodhya

Judgement of District Judge 1986

Date Wise Diary

Muslim MP's Memorandum To The PM

UP Muslim MLA's Memorandum To The CM

High Court Quashes Ayodhya Land Acquisition

Verdict Shows Malafides of UP Government

Order Of The Supreme Court 1991

Ayodhya And The Judiciary - K.F. Rustamji

Jurist Decry Reference To Supreme Court - Amit Prakash

Are We Misusing The Judiciary - Nani A. Palkhivala

#### Section VII

#### Sangh Parivar And Media

211-240

The Great VHP Scam

Rebuked For Rashness

Press: Combatant Or Witness In Communal Warfare? - Anjali Puri

BJP Attack On The Press - Prabhu Chawla

Stop Press

Horror Stories Abound

The Saffron Signal - S. Nihal Singh

Censors Stop Newstrack

A Reporter's View - Ruchira Gupta

Urdu Press Calls For Restraint, Amity - Feroz Bakht Ahmad

She Was The Only Man Among All Those Policemen - Usha Rai

Attack On Journalists Pre-planned: Press Council

#### Section VIII

#### **Riots And Role Of Police**

241-280

Riots: Who Dies: Who Start Them? - V.N. Rai, IPS

The Shame of Communal Riots

After Meerut Massacre

Meerut Death of Secularism, Birth of Fascism - Nikhil Chakrovarty

PAC - The Strike Force of U.P. - Dileep Awasthi

**End This Madness** 

Report On Bhagalpur Holocaust

Danger of Epidemics

Communal Riots In Aligarh

A Calendar of Carnage 1990

Manishankar Aiyar On Communalism

Why Varanasi Violence? - Ashutosh

Savegery In Bombay - M. Rehman and Lekha Rattanani

Helpless Bystander - Zafar Agha

Shiv Sena Admits Role In Riots - Rajdeep Sardesai

Bal Thackeray's Wave of Terror

Bombay 93: An Uncanny Replay of Delhi 84 - Patwant Singh

The New Battlefields - Raj Chengapa and Ramesh Menon

Messages of Hate - Ranvir Nayar

Muslim Killings As An Instrument of Policy

Fanatics In Uniform - Sanjeev Kaw

Who Will Police: The Police? - Saiyid Hamid

#### Section IX

#### View From Abroad

281-326

Mayer West Sperward of Themy - Mar.

Second Spain - Saudi Gazette

The World's Biggest Killer Democracy - Impact, London

Mosque Under Siege

What Method In Madness

The Myth of Rama - Ram Chandra Khatri, IAS

Concern Over The Massacre of Muslims - The Minaret, NY

An Open Letter To US President - Washington Post

Ayodhya: Not Yet Over - Khalcej Times

A War With Itself - Time, USA

Media Monitor - Dawn, The New York Times And The Gaurdian

Secularism's Failure - Editorial, Khaleej Times

Profanity - Editorial, Riyadh Daily

Race Against Demons - Editorial, The Times, London

India Shows Its Darkest Face To The World - Derek Brown, The Gaurdian

Police Excesses Noted In India's Anti Muslim Riots - Asia Watch, USA

West Asia Sees The Hindu Face Of India - G.H. Jansen

An Appeal By NRI's Scholars - The New York Times

Satellite TV Blamed For Riots - Jeremy Clift

Gleanings Of The European Press

Who Can Call India Secular? - Hari Kumar Nair Elavumthitta

Beginning Of A Nightmare - Khaled Al-Maeena, Arab News

Black Sunday: International Reactions - Rahat Abrar

#### Section X

What Next

327-378

Ayodhya: Where Do We Go From Here? - Subarta Banerjee

The Hindutva Philosophy

Religious Fundamentalism - C.H. Hanumantha Rao

How Religious Mobilisation Leads - Kanchan Gupta

The Hindu Left Vs The Hindu Right - Sunil Adam

Congress And The Communal Onslaught - Prem Bhatia

For A Secular Offensive - Prakash Karat

The Angry Hindu And The Appeasement Of Minorities

A Prayer - Rabindranath Tagore

Contours Of A Hindu Rashtra? Mani Chatterjee

Blue Print For Hindu Rajya?

The Hindutva Combine's Next Target - Venkitesh Ramakrishnan

The Gods Under Gaurd - Kumkum Chadha

We Will Do In MAthura - Maharaj Swami Sakshi

A Poser To Hindutva Voteries - M.S. Prabhakaran

Appeasing Hindutva - N. Ram

Secularism under Siege is a detailed documented account of the genesis, growth and development of the Ayodhya controversy, and its transformation from a local dispute into a national issue with international ramifications and, finally, the storming of the Babri Masjid by

the saffron warriors. The Ayodhya tragedy has created an ominous climate of fear and uncertainty about the status and role of minorities in the emerging dispensation, and as significantly, if not more, about the future of secularism and democracy in India. The volume is a carefully edited compendium of the views and analyses, reactions and responses of a cross-section of eminent scholars and media persons, national newspapers and periodicals and the statements and viewpoints of those actively interested or engaged in the Mandir-Masjid dispute.

For the benefit of analysts, researchers and inquisitive general readers, the material has been chapterized and listed issue-wise. The analytical introduction adds to the utility of the volume, which is of more than mere academic or topical

importance.

Secularism under Siege would have a unique appeal and special relevance for all those interested in Indian history and politics. It is essential reading for those committed to democracy and secular nationalism.

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