

UPDATE - 2014

**A Chronicle
of
Communal Incidents
in the
Coastal Districts of Karnataka**

Incidents of moral policing by alleged Hindu Vigilantes

2.1.2014. Mangalore.

The December 18, 2013 incident at Deralakatte in which a criminal gang kidnapped a student couple and demanded ransom money after filming their sex act was given a communal color and sought to be used for political purposes by the Sangh Parivar after it became known that the gang members and the male victim belonged to the Muslim community. The Sangh Parivar organizations held protest meets and demonstrations across the district. In some places provocative banners were put up with headings such as "It's one rule for the Hindus and a different one for the Muslims. Is this right?", "Are you all dead?", "Why nobody is raising his voice?" Following media reports and public protests, the police got into action and removed all such banners. A sample of the provocative banner as published in "*Karavali Ale*" dated 2.1.2014:



ಹಿಂದೂ ಸಂಘಟನೆಗಳ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಲಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡು ಬರುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕೋಮು ಪ್ರಚೋದಿತ ಬ್ಯಾನರ್

ಜನರಲ್ಲಿ ಆತಂಕ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವ ಕೋಮು ಪ್ರಚೋದನಾ ಬ್ಯಾನರ್

ಮಂಗಳೂರು : ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಾದ್ಯಂತ ಮುಸ್ಲಿಂ ಮತಾಂಧ ಶಕ್ತಿಗಳು ಮೆರೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅಟ್ಟಹಾಸದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತರೂಢ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಾಫ್ಟ್ ಕಾರ್ನರ್ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದನ್ನು ಸಹಜವಾಗಿಯೇ ಎನ್ ಕ್ಯಾಶ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಹೊರಟಿರುವ ಹಿಂದೂ ಮತಾಂಧ ಶಕ್ತಿಗಳು ಇಡೀ ಪುಕರಣವನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಸಮುದಾಯದ ತಲೆಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟಿ ಆ ಮೂಲಕ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಲಾಭ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನವನ್ನು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಿತವಾಗಿ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆತಂಕ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ವಿಟ್ಟದ ಪತ್ರಕರ್ತನ ಮೇಲಿನ ಹಲ್ಲೆ ಮೂರನೇ ಪುಟಕ್ಕೆ

ಮುಸ್ಲಿಂ ಮುಖಂಡರ ಆಕ್ರೋಶ

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಜ್ರಮುಹೂರ್ತ ಶಕ್ತಿಗಳ ನೈತಿಕ ಗುಂಡಾಗಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ವರ್ಗ ಭೇದ ಮರೆತು ವಿಚಾರಿಸುವ ಮುಸ್ಲಿಂ ಮುಖಂಡರು "ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೂ ಕಾನೂನನ್ನು ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಂಡು ಕಾರ್ಯಾಚರಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ಇಸ್ಲಾಂ ಧರ್ಮ ಸಮೂಹವು ವಿರೋಧಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಸಮಾಜ ಘಾತಕ ಕೃತ್ಯವೆಸಗುವ ಮಂದಿಗಳು ಮುಸ್ಲಿಮರು ಎಂದ ಮಾತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಅವರು ಆವರು ಪ್ರವೃತ್ತಿಯವ ಧರ್ಮದೊಂದಿಗೆ ತಾಳೆ ಹಾಕುವುದಿಲ್ಲ" ಎಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಧ್ಯಮಗಳು ಕೇವಲ ದುಷ್ಕರ್ಮಿಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರು ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಸುವ ಮತಾಂಧತೆಯನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನಾಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೊರತು ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಮುಸ್ಲಿಂ ಸಮುದಾಯವನ್ನು ಹೊಣೆಯಾಗುವಂತೆ ದುರುಪಯೋಗಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

'ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸಲೂ ಬಿಜೆಪಿ ಮುಂಡ್‌ಗಳಿದಾರೆ' ಗೀಚಿದ ನೋಟು

Note: Interestingly the Sangh Parivar's dramatic acts came to an abrupt end after Dr Narendra Nayak, president of Federation of Indian Rationalists Association and his wife, Asha Nayak, a lawyer, held a press meet on January 10 and explained how they were instrumental in nabbing the culprits and how the male victim was also attacked by the gang and there was no nexus between them (as alleged by the Sangh Parivar) - Compiler.

6.1.2014. Sullia.
 Qamruddin of Goonadka and a young woman who was from the same village and employed in Bengaluru happened to meet each other at the Bengaluru bus terminus. It so happened that they were traveling in the same bus bound for Sullia. Someone in the bus is said to have seen them sitting together and passed on the information to the Bajrang Dal unit at Sullia. Around 4 a.m. when the bus reached Sampaje, a group of Bajrang Dal activists headed by Vijay Nidinji got into it. Vijay is said to have slapped Qamruddin. The latter tried to explain that they had met by accident and were sitting side by side as per the conductor's direction. Despite this the group pulled him out of the bus and assaulted him. Qamruddin has lodged a complaint of assault against Vijay Nidinji and Mahesh Kadupanja at the Madikeri police station. - "Vartha Bharathi", 7th.

10.1.2014. Manipal.

Mohammed Yasir (22) of Katpadi and a girl studying in a private college at Manipal were said to be in love with each other for the past ten months. Yasir, a PUC pass, is said to be jobless. The girl is a resident of Lakshmindra Nagar. Two months ago the couple had clicked indecent photographs of themselves. Yasir was also in love with another girl Asha based in Dubai. Asha hails from Mangalore and she and her family have been in Dubai for the past two years. It is alleged that Asha having got wind of this affair hacked into Yasir's website and downloaded the pictures. Later she is supposed to have uploaded them onto Yasir's Facebook page as per the complaint lodged by Yasir. Yasir and Asha are now accused by the girl of uploading those obscene pictures to the social websites Whatsapp and Facebook. The Udupi SP has clarified that these pictures were taken with mutual consent and not under duress. - "*Vartha Bharathi*", 11th.

ABVP organized a protest by its members belonging to various colleges of Udupi and Hiriyaadka. The students demanded strict action against the youth responsible for uploading obscene pictures of the girl. - "*Vartha Bharathi*", 14th.

15.1.2014. Mangalore.

A boy and a girl, both students of an engineering college located at the city outskirts went on a scooter to the Suratkal beach in the morning. In a short while some persons said to belong to the Hindu Jagran Vedike accosted the couple and assaulted them, it is reported. Upon receipt of a tip-off the police arrived at the spot and took the victims to the Suratkal police station. It is learnt they were released later after their parents were called to the station. It is said that the boy is from Bajpe and the girl is the daughter of a BJP leader from Vittal. Meanwhile the police commissioner has asked the Suratkal police to register a *suo motu* case against the attackers. - "*Vartha Bharathi*", 16th.

It is said that the female student of an engineering college was taking a stroll with a boy from another community, when the members of the organisation took them to task and assaulted them, before informing the police. The police, who should have arrested those who had assaulted the boy and girl, had taken the boy and the girl to the police station, sources said. It is said that the girl is the niece of a former ZP member. The local police said that it was true that Hindu organisations had stopped the couple and interrogated them. However, the couple were not assaulted.

"We rushed to the spot and gave protection to them. In spite of asking the boy and the girl to file a complaint, they have not done so, fearing consequences from family members."

City Police Commissioner R Hithendra said, "the local police have said that the

boy and girl were not assaulted. I have directed senior police officers to look into the case. No one has the right to interrogate a boy and girl. I have directed the Surathkal police to act against the leaders of Hindu organisations for harassing the couple.” - *“Deccan Herald”, 16th*.

The police are probing an incident where according to police a member of the Hindu Jagaran Vedike was found confronting a young couple on Surathkal beach on Wednesday (January 15).

According to the Surathkal police, around 2 p.m. on Surathkal beach, a constable saw a youth embroiled in an argument with the two students. All three were brought to the Surathkal Police Station, where it was revealed that the youth had raised an objection to the couple walking on the beach. All three were released and the police said the young woman did not file a complaint.

Confirming that the troublemaker was a Hindu Jagrana Vedike member, City Police Commissioner R. Hitendra said: “I have directed the police to book the HJV activist under preventive sections.” – *The Hindu, 16th*.

The entire incident took a different turn altogether with the boy giving a statement to the Police Commissioner saying he was not assaulted by HJV members. He said he and the girl were on the beach and then he went away to fetch his friend. According to him when he came back he saw members of HJV talking to the girl. By then the police arrived and took them to the police station and started making inquiries. Later they were released. No case of assault has been booked. It is rumored that the girl’s father, a BJP leader, used his influence and saw to it that the police did not register any case. - *“Karavali Ale”, 17th*.

15.1.2014. Mangalore.

According to the information given by police a couple working at a hotel off the Light House Hill road stayed in a hotel room on 14.1.2014. Next day the police got information about a possible attack on the couple. They came to the hotel and sent away the couple to their respective houses. – *“The Hindu”, 17th*.

18.1.2014. Mangalore.

A DJ party was arranged at HiBar restaurant reportedly by a Muslim youth from Kannur. Student couples from several colleges and other young couples had arrived for the party scheduled from 3 pm till midnight. The restaurant is located on the second floor of ‘Inland Gallery’ close to Pump Well Circle. When Bajrang Dal got the information that Hindu girls were attending the party arranged by a Muslim they called the police and told them that immoral activities and consumption of drugs was going on there. They warned the police that if the

party is not stopped immediately they would do it themselves. The police went to the restaurant at around 5 pm and asked them to stop the party. - *"Karavali Ale", 19th*.

18.1.2014. Puttur.

Five girls and three boys from Mangalore had recently started working as door-to-door sales assistants for a marketing firm located at Boluvar on the outskirts of Puttur. When members of Bajrang Dal saw a Muslim boy among the group waiting at a bus stop, they accosted the group and took them to the police station. The police found that the boys and girls were working on daily wages and were collecting orders from houses on behalf of the firm. They then released all of them. - *"Karavali Ale", 19th*.

18.1.2014. Moodabidre.

Upon coming to know that a young Hindu woman employed at the Pandit Resort was being regularly escorted home by another employee belonging to a different community, activists of Bajrang Dal swung into action. They lay in wait and when they saw the two driving towards Karkala in an Innova, they followed them in their vehicle. according to reports when a policeman from Moodabidre police station learnt about this he took the Bajrangis to task and asked them to go back. But in the evening the Karkala police took the foursome, viz, Santhosh Pojary, Sunil, Mahesh Shenoy and Prasad Alva into custody. On 19th all four of them were produced before the magistrate and released them on bail. - *"Karavali Ale", 20th*.

19.1.2014. Mangalore.

An industrialist from Deralakatte had organized a DJ party for college students at the Summer Sands resort at Ullal beach in the afternoon. When the saffron brigade got wind of this they called the local police and told them that drugs were being consumed there. They threatened to conduct a raid themselves if the police failed to act. In view of the threat the police posted a posse of policemen to provide security to the party which incidentally, went on upto 5:30 pm. So far no organization of the saffron brigade has claimed responsibility for the act. - *"Karavali Ale", 20th*.

19.1.2014. Puttur.

The police have registered a complaint by the father of a girl from Irde village which states that "Members of a hindutva organization are spreading a canard that my daughter is having an illicit relationship with a Muslim boy and that she goes around with him in a car. When questioned they threaten us. We are deeply hurt by this false propaganda which is resulting in loss of family honor." The police have taken a few members of the organization into custody and are

making inquiries. some of them have been released subsequently. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 20th.

20.1.2014. Shirva.

It is reported that an old man aged 56 years had sexually harassed a 13 year old girl while traveling in a bus on January 19 at around 8:30 pm. Upon a complaint registered by the girl, the police had arrested the man. But since the man happened to be a Muslim and the girl a Hindu, Bajrang Dal entered the picture. They held a bundh today. During the bundh around 150 Bajrang Dal activists are reported to have assaulted the Muslim owner and driver of a bus with steel rods. It is alleged that when the two of them took shelter in a mosque some Muslims formed a group and confronted the activists. There was a lot of slogan-shouting. But, timely arrival of the police prevented the situation from getting out of hand. Mohammed Hasim (34, owner of the bus) and Mohammed Hanif (36, driver) have been admitted to the Ajjarakadu hospital at Udupi. - *"Vartha Bharathi"*, 21st; *"Karavali Ale"*, 21st.

21.1.2014. Vittal.

Apparently Shiyabuddin, residing at Mangalapadavu near Vittal and a Hindu girl from Punacha village, studying at the Vittal Government College were in love with each other. They had reportedly planned to go to the annual fair at the Vittal temple. At night Shiyabuddin had gone in his motorcycle to pick her up from her house. As the bike reached Thoranakatte a group of youth stopped them. When they found that the couple was from different communities they beat up Shiyabuddin and handed him over to the police. Shiyabuddin has been taken into police custody. The girl has been sent home with her parents. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 23rd.

28.1.2014. Puttur.

Accusing Azar (20) and Sayyad (20) of carrying on 'love jihad', a group of around 10 persons attacked them near the Puttur railway station where they were waiting for a Bangalore-bound train at around 10 pm. They asked the duo about the girl they had spoken to on the bus from Vittal to Puttur and accused them of 'love jihad' said the railway police. In his complaint to the police Sayyad said at the Vittal bus stand they had asked a girl if the bus goes to the Puttur railway station. This led to the locals taking offence and calling members of a "right-wing" outfit to attack the duo said the police. - *"The Hindu"*, 30th.

7.2.2014. Sullia.

A local leader of Congress party from Bellare had planned to go to Bengaluru with his lover, a Muslim girl from Sullia. Both traveled together from Bellare to Uppinangady via Puttur. Member of a certain organization who knew the leader

saw the couple and reported the matter to the head of the organization. Within a short time activists of the organization accosted the couple. They asked the girl to go home and later took the man to Bellare and conducted an inquiry. Reportedly the man confessed to his 'crime' and hence the matter was settled. Locals have alleged that it was a deal in which money has exchanged hands. - *"Karavali Ale", 10th*.

21.2.2014. Mangalore.

Nisar (21) from Kulai had gone to the Mallamar beach near Suratkal with a girl (17) at around noon time. Suddenly four men appeared, abused Nisar and beat him up with wooden clubs and escaped within no time. Nisar fell unconscious. Suratkal police who arrived at the spot shifted Nisar to the hospital. He is said to be in a critical condition and has been kept in ICU. Nisar is a relative of Kalander Shakeel who was recently a victim of attack by four unidentified youth (see: **20.1.2014. Mangalore.**). The police have taken Hitendra, Guruprasad, Shivraj, Nikhil, Nagesh and Pradip Kumar into their custody and are making inquiries. - *"Karavali Ale", 22nd & 24th*.

27.2.2014. Mangalore.

Faisal and his girlfriend from Mudushedde used to meet regularly at a secluded house at Haripadav, behind A.J.Hospital. When members of the Hindu Jagran Vedike came to know about this they lay in wait and beat the couple and handed them over to Kavour police. It is learnt that the police gave a warning to the couple before releasing them. No police complaint has been lodged. - *"Karavali Ale", 28th*.

10.3.2014. Mangalore.

A Muslim youth from Jharkhand had come to the house of a local Congress Seva Dal leader at Kana in Suratkal. A well-dressed girl had accompanied him. It was around 11 in the morning. Someone must have passed on the information to the saffron brigade that he saw a Hindu, Muslim couple. Suddenly a group of hindutva activists appeared on the scene. They assaulted the couple with wooden sticks and other lethal weapons. Later they called the police and handed over the boy to them. Meanwhile the leader of the hindutva outfit who is a vegetable seller at the Suratkal market came there in his Alto car and took the girl away. But when he found out that she was a Muslim he let her go. The Suratkal police station is being blamed for all the various unlawful activities taking place in its jurisdiction. - *"Karavali Ale", 11th*.

26.3.2014. Mangalore.

Wahid, owner of a mobile repair shop and a woman from a different community were at his house at Krishnapur 4th block, Suratkal. Locals who noticed the couple suspected that they were engaged in immoral activities and informed the police. The Suratkal police arrived and when Wahid refused to open the door they broke it open and entered inside. It is learnt that the woman is married and is working as an assistant doctor at a private hospital. The police dispersed the crowd that had gathered outside and arrested Wahid on charges of carrying on immoral activities. ACP Ravikumar also made a visit to the site. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 27th.

5.5.2014. Bantwal.

Someone who saw a boy and a girl speaking to each other in Malayalam in a bus coming from Mangalore passed on the information to certain hindutva organisation. The activists of the organisation held up the bus at Kudrabettu and started assaulting the boy. But when it was revealed that both were from the same community the activists vacated the place post haste. – *Karavali Ale*, 6th.

3.6.2014. Mangalore.

Three Muslim students of an engineering college located at Mijar were traveling in a Maruti Omni to Mangalore for preparing project report for the exams scheduled for June 4. On the way they saw two female Hindu senior students of the same college waiting at the Mijar bus stop. Since the girls were also going to Mangalore they were offered a lift in the Omni. The saffron group of Gurupur Kaikamba area became alert when they got a tip-off about this. They immediately followed the vehicle and forced it to come to a stop. Upon finding out the religious affiliations of the occupants the boys were assaulted and their clothes torn. Someone informed the police. But before the police could reach the spot the miscreants escaped. Azim Ilishan, one of the injured boys has in a complaint to the Bajpe police named the attackers as Nidhi of Kaikamba and Harish, a bus agent. A case (151/2014) has been registered under IPC sections 341, 323, 345 read with 34. It is learnt that Nidhi is the main accused in the recent stone-throwing incident on the Suralpadi mosque (see: **16.5.2014. Mangalore**). – *Karavali Ale*, 4th.

5.6.2014. Mangalore.

A 21-year-old engineering student belonging to a minority community was assaulted by a group for moving with a female classmate from a different community. The group noticed them when they came in a car to the Someshwar beach. After they made inquiries to find out which communities they belonged to they attacked the boy and then called the girl's mother who came and took her daughter away. According to the city police commissioner investigations were going on to trace the attackers. – *The Hindu*, 6th.

3.7.2014. Bantwal.

Kiran and his sister Ankita both from Bengaluru had come to Kalladka for obtaining Ankita's old school records. She is an old student of Sri Rama High School at Kalladka. Kiran had also brought his friend Kasim Rahim of Gowri Bidanur (Chikballapur District) along. While the three were travelling in a bus a group stopped the bus and asked the three to get down. The group then raised objections to the presence of a Muslim among the three. This led to a tense situation in the town. The police intervened, put the three in an autorickshaw and told them to go to the Bantwal police station. But when the autorickshaw neared KC Road, another group of three persons stopped it, pulled out Kasim and assaulted him. A complaint to this effect has been registered at the Bantwal police station. Three persons Vishwanath, Vijeth and Shivaraj have been taken into custody. – *Vartha Bharathi, 4th.*

6.7.2014. Belthangady.

Asif works as a cleaner in a private bus company and he is a resident of Kambalabettu near Vittla. Asif had found a cell phone on a bus and when he called the number a woman answered. She is a married woman from Nala in Belthangady taluk. Asif asked her to come to Vittal and collect the mobile but she insisted that he deliver it at her place. Asif's friend Sunit also had made calls to the woman. She had told this to her husband who in turn informed the local saffron brigade. When Asif got down from the bus the hindutva boys were waiting. They took him elsewhere, tied him to a post and thrashed him. The news spread like wild fire and the soon the police too came to know of it. They rushed to the spot, took Asif into custody and settled the matter amicably. – *Karavali Ale, 7th.*

13.7.2014. Bantwal.

Mohammed Ali (35) works abroad and he had recently come home to Uppinangady. Today he came on a visit to his sister's place at Kojapadi in Vittal. He dropped his niece at her school in Vittal. When he went to pick her up he could not locate her. He started enquiring with other students. Six boys from a different religious group thought that he had immoral intentions. They assaulted him and damaged his car. Mohammed Ali has lodged a complaint to this effect with the Vittal police. The police have registered a case against six persons including Pratap Shetty and Pratik. – *Vartha Bharathi, 14th.*

16.7.2014. Ujire.

A group of people allegedly assaulted a youth when he along with his cousin, was waiting at a bus shelter in Ujire town.

Mohammed Sabir, a resident of Mudigere was engaged to be married to a girl from Karkala. At around 10:30 a.m. they were waiting for the bus at Ujire. All of a sudden a group of some 50 persons approached them and began 'questioning' them. They accused Sabir of kidnapping a Hindu girl and started assaulting him. Though the girl showed her college ID card and tried to convince them that she was not a Hindu they did not care and thrashed her and sexually harassed her. When the Belthangady police got the information they rushed to the spot and saved the couple. Meanwhile hundreds of persons gathered and the situation in Ujire turned tense. The police sent additional forces and brought the situation under control. The police have registered a case and are looking for the culprits with the help of some video clips. listen and subsequently assaulted Sabir. The police have taken a few persons into custody. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 17th.

25.7.2014. Mangalore.

Umer Farook (21) and two girls were walking down the road near Ganapathy temple. They asked two locals to show the way to the beach. The duo Navin and Nitin directed them elsewhere and followed them and assaulted Umer abusing him for being in the company of Hindu girls. The police arrived and took both Navin and Nitin in custody. According to sources they knew Umer and the girls and had followed them right from Uppala near Kasargod. – *Karavali Ale*, 26th.

25.7.2014. Kundapur.

Towfic was going on his motorcycle at Neralakatte near Vandse. When he saw his old classmate waiting at a bus stop he offered her a lift to her home. On the way a group stopped the bike and assaulted Towfic. Though he and the girl explained the circumstances they would have none of it. The police were called and they did a mild lathi charge to disperse the group. Later the victims' parents were called to the police station for warning them. – *Karavali Ale*, 26th.

08.8.2014. Vittal.

A male and a female student of the local first grade government college talking to each other became a big issue because both happened to belong to different religious communities. Two groups of students (of different religious communities) fought with each other within the college premises over the same issue. The college principal quickly put an end to the scuffle and called both groups to his chamber. After holding an enquiry he decided to suspend Deepak, Shoab, Ranjit, Shamsuddin and Noufal for a week. The principal has told the suspended students that they can get re-admitted only if they come with their parents. The matter has been reported to the police. – *Karavali Ale*, 9th.

5.9.2014. Mangalore.

An inter-community couple who had got married in May this year met the police commissioner and sought protection. The girl's father had lodged a complaint that his daughter was a minor and had gone missing. The matter is to come up for hearing tomorrow in a local court. Wilson Rakesh D'Souza, employed in a private company at Pumpwell and pursuing his masters in Commerce and Shobini (18) had been courting for two-and-a-half years. They had got married on 30 May 2014 at the office of a Christian marriages registrar at Bejai. According to Wilson around 4 or 5 persons from a hindutva organisation asked him to marry as per Hindu rites. But since they knew that his cousin had married a Billava (Hindu) youth they would not trouble him. – *Karavali Ale, 6th*.

18.9.2014. Mangalore.

A 20-member group reportedly assaulted six students from Mangalore Institute of Fire and Safety Engineering near the Pumpwell Junction here. Kalandar Shahil (18), Azmal (18) and their four friends were on their way to a bus stop from the institute. Alleging that the victims had taken photographs of their female friends during a college function the group assaulted Kalandar with sticks and a knife. Kalandar suffered a knife injury and has been admitted to a hospital. Azmal was hit by a stone, when he tried to run away from the group. He too has been treated at the hospital.

Kalandar said that he came to the support of his classmate Nazim who had been taking pictures as advised by his teacher during Teachers Day celebrations in the college. Suprit and his friends had objected to this. They became quiet when Nazim and his friends threatened to report the matter to the college administration and the police. Today Kalandar and his five friends had come out of the college to have tea at a wayside stall around noon. When they suspected that they were being followed they moved towards the bus stop. But a group of persons came in a vehicle and joined those who were following them. Reportedly they surrounded Kalandar and his friends and hit at them with heavy sticks, stone and knife. The Mangalore Rural Police have registered a case against 15 Bajrang Dal men including Punit Raj Kottari, Pramod Suvarna and Pradip Pumpwell. – *Vartha Bharathi, 19th*.

20.9.2014. Mangalore.

Two groups of third year BBM students belonging to two different religious communities fought with each other reportedly after a girl was teased by a boy. The incident took place at the University college here. The police were called in and they have booked cases against members of both groups. – *Karavali Ale, 21st*.

20.9.2014. Udupi.

According to Kaup Circle Inspector of Police Sunil Naik, two girls and two boys from a college in Shirva had gone to the beach, when they were assaulted by a group of three persons at 10.30 a.m. Of the four students who were assaulted, three belonged to one community, while the other belonged to another community. The incident was uploaded on social media sites, including whatsapp. The parents of the students approached the police seeking to block the uploaded content. The police have arrested Pritam, Sudhir and Suman on the charge of assaulting the four college students. – *The Hindu*, 23rd.

The incident took a different turn on 23 September. One of the girls lodged a complaint with the police saying that when she and the other girl were on the beach, one of the students had sexually assaulted her. Later several leaders of hindutva organisations along with a former MLA Lalaji Mendon protested in front of Kaup police station demanding that the police take immediate action on the girl's complaint. – *Karavali Ale*, 24th.

17.10.2014. Padubidri.

Activists said to be members of a hindutva organisation pounced on a group of boys and girls of mixed faiths on the local beach and subjected them to moral policing. They reportedly assaulted some of the boys before calling in the police. On enquiry it was found that they were previously classmates in the tenth standard and had come to the beach to have a meeting. The police then called the parents to the station and in their presence made the group sign a letter of surety and later released them after warning them of strict action in case they repeated the behaviour. – *Karavali Ale*, 18th.

23.10.2014. Moodabidre.

Activists of the Bajrang Dal gathered at an under-construction factory building at Kadalakere upon learning that a couple belonging to different religious communities was roaming there. The doctor couple was employed at a hospital in Moodabidre. Chandrahas Sanil, the owner of the building learnt about the crowd gathered and he rushed to the spot in his vehicle. When he seated the couple in his car the activists objected. As heated arguments were in progress the police arrived. Reportedly Chandrahas refused to transfer the couple to the police jeep and he took the couple to the police station in his own car. The Panambur ACP Ravi Kumar is said to have visited the station in order to get first-hand information on the incident. – *Karavali Ale*, 24th.

27.10.2014. Mangalore.

Members of a pro-Hindu organisation assaulted a man and a woman hailing from different communities when they were travelling in a two-wheeler at Nanthoor

junction here at night. The woman is from Madikeri and works at a mall. The man is a store manager at the same mall. He was on his way to drop the woman at her house when the attack took place. The Kadri police have taken six persons into custody. – *Deccan Herald*, 28th.

Their names are: Pravin, Dipak, Prasad, Arun, Yuvraj and Rakshit.

7.11.2014. Kundapur.

Various hindutva organisations such as VHP, Bajrang dal, Durga Vahini and autorickshaw drivers associations staged a demonstration in front of the Amasebail police station today alleging 'love jihad' and demanding the arrest of the couple. The alleged incident had taken place a couple of days ago. Madura Hebbar (22) and Sarfraz (28) had gone missing. Reportedly Madura was recently married and was continuing studies at Barkur college. She came to know Srfraz through her sister who was a friend of Sarfraz's sister. Sarfraz works in a Gulf counry and had recently come on leave for his sister's wedding. An SMS to Madura's brother from her said she had gone with Sarfraz of her own free will. However police have registered a case on the basis of a complaint. Security has been provided to Sarfraz's house. – *Karavali Ale*, 8th & 9th.

5.12.2014. Moodabidre.

Imtiaz reportedly posed as a Hindu and developed friendship with a Hindu girl through his Facebook account. Hindutva activists Sachin, Sunil, Prasad, Vinayak and Navin came to know about this love affair and they accosted Imtiaz and assaulted him. Both sides have lodged complaints against one another. The police arrested all the accused and produced them before the court which has granted them bail. – *Karavali Ale*, 6th.

19.12.2014. Vittal.

Student vigilantes objected when they found a boy speaking to a girl student from a different religious community at the Vittal Government College. When warned by the group, the boy is said to have shot back. The vigilante group lassaulted him in the evening within the college premises. The police were informed and they managed to bring normalcy after resorting to a lathi-charge. – *Karavali Ale*, 20th.

20.12.2014. Mangaluru (name changed from Mangalore)

Pramod Muthalik, head of Srirama Sene appeared before the Mangaluru JMFC court 2 in connection with the 2009 pub attack. A total of 31 accused including Muthalik were present at today's hearing. Summons has been issued against eight of the accused who are still absconding. – *Vartha Bharati*, 21st.

25.12.2014. Mangaluru.

Abil from Kerala is a student of a college near Kottara. Three girls are pursuing a course in nursing in Kerala had come to Abil's apartment. Since there were eight occupants in that apartment Abid told the girls that he would make some alternative arrangements. He then took them to another apartment where two of his friends were staying. When some people saw boys and girls of different communities in the same flat they created a ruckus. The apartment owner called the police and the latter took all the boys and girls to the police station. It is learnt that the girls' parents were informed of the matter. – *Karavali Ale*, 26th.

Incidents of moral policing by alleged Muslim Vigilantes

17.1.2014. Belthangady.

An incident of moral policing has been reported from Bendrala which is located near Kakkinje in Charmadi village. Rafiq, Sharif, Hama, Hanif, Nasir and others assaulted Ashok, a resident of Gundibagilu, accusing him of visiting a Bendrala house regularly and indulging in immoral activities. Ashok has lodged a complaint to this effect at the Belthangadi police station. Meanwhile a counter complaint has been filed by more than ten women of Bendrala alleging that Ashok had been harassing the women of the region. Police are investigating. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 19th.

21.1.2014. Mangalore.

Hitaraj, a 28-year old youth from Mogaveerapatna in Ullal was talking to a Muslim woman aged around 40 in front of a shop at K.C.Road. Suddenly a couple of men arrived on a motorcycle. They took Hitaraj to a hamlet near the Falah school at Kinya and assaulted him with wooden clubs. The attackers left after warning him and threatening to kill him. A grievously injured Hitaraj has been admitted to a hospital. Reportedly the woman had received a missed call from Hitaraj's mobile on January 18. On January 19 the woman had returned the call and the two of them had agreed to meet at Thokkottu, a nearby place. But later she had changed the venue to K.C.Road. It is being suspected that members of KFD (Karnataka Forum for Dignity, the erstwhile name of Popular Front of India or PFI). No arrests have been made so far. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 22nd.

10.2.2014. Puttur.

When local people found a couple belonging to different communities inside a rented room at Bannur they laid siege to it. The couple was beaten up and then

handed over to the police. Upon inquiry it was found that the two were in love for the past three years. The man Pramod (33) hails from Kollam in Kerala and is engaged in construction of wells. The Muslim girl (23) is a resident of Sanyasi Gudde near Kedambady. Since the latter refused to go home she has been sent to Prajna Counselling Center in Mangalore. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 11th.

26.3.2014. Vittal.

There was an *uroos* programme going on at the Valiyullahia Dargah Sharif at Kambalebettu (on the Vittal-Puttur road). Lohith, Shashi, Karunaker Naithottu and Lingappa Gowda came in a jeep and started teasing some Muslim girls at Jakimule which is a little distance away from the dargah. A group of Muslim boys came to know this and they attacked the foursome. Ravi who came to the spot in a motorcycle was also assaulted. The jeep was damaged and the motorcycle was set on fire. When the police learnt about the incident they went to the spot and took the injured to a hospital. The police have taken Abdul Razak (27), Abdul Bashir (26), Abdul Majid (30) and Abdul Sattar (38) and produced them before the court. According to the family members of the girls, the police have refused to entertain their complaint of eve-teasing. - *"Vartha Bharati"*, 27th.

10.6.2014. Karkal.

Kowdoor Sudhir was said to be in love with a Muslim girl from Banglagudde and used to visit her often. On getting the information that Sudhir has come to see her today, a group of around 13 local Muslim boys went to the place and assaulted him due to which Sudhir sustained grievous injuries. The group escaped after shaving his hair off. Later they uploaded a video of the entire event on Whatsapp. On a complaint by Sudhir, the police have managed to nab 7 of the 13 accused. However, there is a twist in the tale. Sudhir has complained against the girl too accusing her of setting him up for the attack. - *Karavali Ale*, 11th & 13th.

20.8.2014. Mangalore.

A girl from Mullarpatna had come to Gurupur Kaikamba in connection with some work and there she came across an acquaintance who happened to be from the Hindu community. Suddenly a group of Muslim fundamentalists surrounded them and started asking questions. The couple somehow managed to escape. While the boy disappeared the girl boarded a bus for Mullarpatna. But the group passed on the information to their associates ahead. As the girl got down at her destination the boys began to abuse her. At this juncture the police intervened and took charge of the girl. Reportedly the parents were called to the police station and the girl was handed over to them after a stern warning. However the police say they have not received any complaint so far. - *Karavali Ale*, 28th.

20.8.2014. Karkal.

Lovers Safnaz from Muddana Nagar in Sanur vilage of Karkala taluk and Mahesh alias Dhanush ran away from home early in the morning since their parents had objected to their getting married. However by evening the couple reported at the Karkal town police station and said they wanted to get married. But this was not possible since Mahesh was still a minor. The girl refused to go home and said she would rather stay in a remand home until her fiancée reached the age of consent. She has been sent to the Spoorthi Dhama at Udupi. (Meanwhile a message with a picture of Safnaz wearing a garland and bearing a heading "Condolences" has been doing the rounds on WhatsApp reportedly uploaded by men from her community who were upset with her actions). – *Karavali Ale, 23rd*.

27.8.2014. Mangalore.

Urwa Police arrested three men, who created ruckus near a mall here tonight, when they took law into their hands and reportedly waylaid a youth and his female friend, because she belonged to another religion. The man was attacked as they came out of the mall.

Police said the youth came out of a cinema hall in Bharath Mall around 8 p.m. with his friend when they were waylaid by three men. They questioned him for moving around with a woman belonging to another religion and attacked him. They allegedly abused them and threatened the woman.

While Mr. Karkera escaped from the scene, the police, who rushed to the mall, took the girl to police station and sent her home after her parents came to the station. Police have booked a case against three accused persons under section 321 (causing hurt), 295a (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and 506 (criminal intimidation). – *The Hindu, 29th*.

The arrested are Isham (21), Irfaan (20) and Sadath (26) from Ullal. A III year BSW student from a city college had been to the mall along with his junior girl student to watch the movie at Big Cinema. When they were coming out after watching the movie the youth stopped them and enquired the name of the girl. Upon learning that she belonged to the Muslim community they took the boy to task and threatened him with dire consequences. – *Deccan Herald, 29th*.

13.9.2014. Mangalore.

A group of Muslim youth took a driver to task for dropping a Muslim girl back home after college hours. The autorickshaw driver from another community had been engaged by the girl's parent. The incident took place at Valachil on the outskirts of the city. The police rushed to the spot upon learning of the incident. However, they said neither the driver nor the girl's parent came forward to lodge

a complaint and when asked were told that it was the result of some misunderstanding. – *Deccan Herald*, 14th.

7.10.2014. Mangalore.

A group of Muslim youth assaulted Raghavendra, inside his photo studio located at Kunil Complex in the heart of the city. A Muslim girl had come to the studio for some video mixing work and the work was in progress. Some Muslim youth noticed this and became suspicious. They rushed into the studio, assaulted Raghavendra and destroyed furniture and other equipment. Raghavendra has lodged a complaint with the Bunder police. – *Prajavani*, 8th.

The Mangalore North police arrested three persons for their alleged involvement in the assault of 38-year-old photographer Raghavendra Achar at his studio in Kunil complex on October 7. Those arrested are Amir from Thokkottu, Aslam from Attavar and Jalil from Kudroli. Search is on for other persons involved. – *The Hindu*, 12th.

24.11.2014. Vittal.

A group of persons from Perla followed two men and a married woman belonging to a different community in Perla who were reportedly going to Mangaluru. When personnel at the Sardka checkpost saw the two speeding vehicles they informed the Vittal police who rushed and interrupted the first vehicle at a road junction. The three-some were taken to the Vittal police station. Soon a crowd gathered in front of the station and situation turned tense. The Vittal police arranged to send the three-some to the jurisdictional police station at Badiadka. It is reported that on the way some miscreants at Perla stoned the police jeep and the vehicle. Investigations are in progress. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 25th.

Reportedly the woman, a Muslim from Perla, had got married around three months back but started having an affair with a Christian man also from Perla. The couple was traveling to Mangaluru in a friend's car. – *Karavali Ale*, 25th.

2.12.2014. Belthangady.

Abhishek (name changed) of Neriya village was talking a woman from his village who was waiting for a bus at the Belthangady bus terminus. A group of seven youth belonging to another community noticed this and took Abhishek to another spot near the government college and thrashed him. Abhishek has lodged a complaint to this effect with the police on December 3. – *Vartha Bharati*, 2nd.

Mohammed Sadiq (25), Mohammed Mustafa (24) and Mohammed Sibili (17) siad to be members of KFD, a Muslim organisation, were arrested by the police

on December 5. While Sadiq and Mustafa were remanded to judicial custody, Sibili has been produced before the juvenile court. – *Karavali Ale*, 6th.

4.12.2014. Mangalore.

The Barke police have taken suo motu notice of two posts on Facebook that threatened Muslim women students and have registered a case. The post said that if the women were found speaking to men belonging to other communities, they would have to face the consequences.

In the complaint, Barke Police Inspector S.S. Meti has taken note of a report published in a local evening paper on Thursday regarding the posts on the Facebook pages of Muslim Defence Force and Mangalore Muslims.

The case has been registered under Section 66 (A) of the Information Technology Act 2000, which bars people from posting content that cause inconvenience, danger and criminally intimidate people. – *The Hindu*, 6th.

19.12.2014. Puttur.

An autorickshaw driver who also happens to be an informer for the moral police saw a burqa-clad girl with a Hindu boy near Aruna Cinema and alerted his bosses. Immediately hundreds of vigilantes began gathering in front of the cinema hall. Meanwhile activists of opposite fundamentalist groups too reached the place. As soon as the police got wind of the developments they rushed to the spot and did a lathi-charge and dispersed the two groups. The police then went inside the hall and asked the couple to leave quietly. – *Karavali Ale*, 20th.

20.1.2014. Mangalore.

Moral policing, pub attack, attack on home stay etc have affected the tourism industry as never before. After the infamous home stay attack of July 28, 2012 there is a heightened feeling everywhere that Mangalore is an 'unsafe' destination. Actually when compared to hotels and lodges home stays are much cheaper and hence usually preferred by students and newly-weds. Several home stay owners have confirmed the fact that the decline in business is mainly due to increased incidents of moral policing. After the home stay attack this type of tourism has lost its popularity and no amount of publicity has helped to reverse the trend says Assistant Director of Tourism, U. Jitendranath. Today there are just three home stays in the city. - "*Karavali Ale*", 20th.

Incidents of 'religious vigilantism'

19 & 20.3.2014. Mangalore & Udupi.

The members of the International Federation of Christian Associations and other leaders of Christian community have submitted memoranda to the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police of both districts asking them to take action against the miscreants who uploaded a Facebook post insulting the Christian religion. It is alleged that the faces of Sonia Gandhi and Arvind Kejriwal were substituted for those of Mother Mary and Infant Jesus. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 20th & *"Vartha Bharati"*, 21st.

25.5.2014. Mangalore.

Members of the 'Hindu Janajagruti Samiti' held a demonstration in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office urging a ban on the 'azaan' (muezzin's call) from mosques between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. as per apex court order. Vijayalakshmi of the Sanatan Sanstha alleged that the authorities insist on compliance with sound pollution norms while granting permission for religious festivals but remain silent on the issue of 'azaan'. Kumar Malemar, vice-president of the Srirama Sene state unit was also present. - *Vartha Bharathi*, 26th.

26.5.2014. Bantwal.

A resident of Badalam near Perla Biyapade of Sarapadi village had changed his religion and become a Christian. He used to conduct his weekly prayers at home. Suspecting that he was engaging in proselytisation and conversion some local people informed the police. Upon investigation the police have come to the conclusion that no such activities were taking place, sources said. However the rural police have refused to provide any information regarding the case. - *Karavali Ale*, 27th.

12.6.2014. Puttur.

Hasainar, a resident of Janata Colony near Keyyur Kaikamba, has been arrested on a complaint of theft lodged by a Hindu girl of Ajekar Karkala. Hasainar, a driver, used to come to the cashew factory at Muniyal near Karkal. It was here that he had met the girl and both fell in love with each other. Ultimately they decided to get married. Hasainar wanted her to change her religion to Islam. She had agreed and he had arranged to take her to Ponnani in Kerala. Accordingly he came in a car with two of his friends, picked her up and they went to Kasargod. While the four of them were waiting for a train at Kasargod station the railway police became suspicious. Upon seeing the policemen the men escaped. The railway police called the Ajekar police who came with the girl's parents and took her back home. The parents later lodged a complaint that the men had taken away her bag containing gold ornaments and clothes. The police rushed to Hasainar's place and managed to take him into custody. A search is on to locate his two friends. - *Karavali Ale*, 14th.

03.8.2014. Mangalore.

Dolphy Moraes, his family and friends used to get together and conduct prayer meetings at Dolphy's house at Mannagudda once in a while. Today there was one such meeting. Allegedly members of local Bajrang Dal who had been keeping a watch on the house for quite some time, called the Barke police station (and probably the media too) alleging religious conversion activities. When the police as well as media persons rushed to the spot and made enquiries the facts turned out to be otherwise. Today's special prayers were held on account of Dolphy's wife becoming pregnant after five years. – *Karavali Ale*, 4th.

Note: There are no reports about police having taken any action against person/s making the false complaint – Compiler.

12.8.2014. Puttur.

Suresh Atramajalu, member of local panchayat has alleged that four women from Golihottu had been distributing handbills pertaining to a particular religion thus encouraging religious conversion. Today some local persons apprehended the women while they were at the house of a woman of Pulithadka near Uppinangady and alleged that they were trying to convert her. They took the four women to the police station and handed them over to the police. The latter took a written undertaking from the women and released them after a stern warning. – *Vijaya Karnataka*, 13th.

3.9.2014. Belthangady.

Hundreds of parents and members of the public gathered in front of the Bedrabettu Mariambika School at Indabettu to protest the use of religious symbols by the school. They alleged that the school authorities had distributed to the students T-shirts and ID cards with the symbol of a crucifix. On getting the information a sub-inspector from Belthangady police station rushed to the spot with his team. In addition a platoon of Reserve police was also called in. The police held talks with both sides. On behalf of the school, Father Jose Valiyaparambil explained that the distributed materials had just the school emblem but they were temporarily withdrawn when objections were raised. He said the school authorities would shortly call a meeting of the parents and take a final decision in the matter. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 4th.

6.9.2014. Mangalore.

In a case involving the marriage of an inter-religious couple, the JMFC court after hearing the arguments of both sides said that since Shobini was not a minor she was free to decide for herself. She chose to live with Wilson and the matter

ended there. It is learnt that the police have warned the girl's family against causing any trouble to the couple. – *Karavali Ale*, 7th.

In an interesting development the couple wed again on September 10 at the Arya Samaj premises here after Wilson became a Hindu and changed his name as Rakesh. Punit, a leader of Bajrang Dal said that Wilson had got in touch with them and expressed his desire to get converted. Hence they had arranged for a function at Arya Samaj at which Shobini's friends, Rakesh's mother and some Bajrang Dal activists were present. – *Karavali Ale*, 11th.

21.10.2014. Mangalore.

Vivita Sonia D'Souza (22) and Roshan Shetty, said to be in love with each other for the past three years had got married in Arya Samaj on 16 October. But the entire case has taken a curious turn now with Vivita filing a complaint of kidnapping; attempt to molest her modesty and getting her to sign documents by force. The Kadaba police have registered cases under IPC 323, 366, 342, 143 and 147 against Roshan, Jagdish Shenava (a VHP leader), Pravin, Sharat, Ganesh Kumpala, Dinesh Kadri and others and are investigating. – *Karavali Ale*, 22nd.

Incidents of cattle vigilantism

27.2.2014. Mangalore.

Sibi Cherian, Naufal, Dominic Topo, Sibilo and Shabir were transporting some cattle purchased by a person from Pariyaram in Kannur, Kerala from a farm at Shiradi. They had valid documents from the *gram panchayat* and the Nelyadi police. When the vehicle reached Pumpwell Circle in Mangalore a large group of about 50 men forced the vehicle to a stop and assaulted all occupants. When the Kankanady police were informed they came to the spot, took the vehicle into custody and brought the situation under control. Later Inspector Harish Kumar inspected all the documents and allowed the vehicle to proceed. He said that a complaint would be registered if the victims so desired. - "*Karavali Ale*", 28th.

19.4.2014. Sringeri/Mangalore.

A youth from Mangalore was shot dead reportedly by Anti-Naxal Force (ANF) personnel at Tanikodu check-post on the Sringeri–Karkala Road around 4 a.m. today.

While the police said that the ANF personnel mistook him for a Maoist, his family and an MLA alleged that the youth was shot dead without any provocation and demanded an inquiry.

According to the police, four people engaged in cattle trade in Mangalore were transporting 21 head of cattle purchased from Tirthahalli and Sringeri in a goods carrier.

Chikmagalur Superintendent of Police R. Chethan told *The Hindu* that as the vehicle reached the check-post — located nearly 100 km away from Mangalore — ANF personnel signalled it to stop. “The passengers got out and started running... Their behaviour prompted the ANF men to open fire... The ANF men thought they were Naxals,” he said.

While Kabir (24), a resident of Krishapura in Mangalore, died on the spot, ANF personnel took Umar Farooq (27) into their custody. Two others, Kabir’s cousin Rafiq and the driver, Pramod, fled from the spot.

The family claimed that the fourth person, Sarafaraz, is missing.

The Sringeri police have registered a case under Sections of 143 (unlawful assembly), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting with deadly weapon), and 379 (theft) of the Indian Penal Code against the cattle transporters.

Lathi charge

Tension prevailed in Sringeri town later in the day when a group of youth, allegedly associated with the Bajrang Dal, stopped vehicles of Kabir’s relatives and tried to attack them. The police resorted to lathi-charge to disperse the mob. A case of attempt to murder has been registered against this group of youth.

Rafiq, who reached Mangalore later in the day, said he got out of the vehicle to show documents pertaining to transport of cattle. At the same time, two ANF personnel went to check the vehicle’s carriage, he said.

“I then heard the sound of bullets being fired and fled from the spot along with the driver,” Mr. Rafiq said.

The attack on Kabir’s relatives in Sringeri town triggered tension in Chokkabettu and Krishnapura in Mangalore. Additional police personnel rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

MLA seeks inquiry

In Mangalore, Congress MLA Mohiuddin Bava said an “innocent” person was shot dead without any provocation. He sought an impartial inquiry into the incident.

Kabir’s cousin Serajuddin alleged that ANF personnel opened fire without any provocation. “They killed an innocent youth,” he said. – *The Hindu*, 20th.

4.6.2014. Kundapur.

About a dozen cattle were being transported in an Eicher truck from the local Kollur branch of Tapovarishtha Ashram to the cattle pen at the main Ashram located at Vandattavalam in Palakkad in Kerala. There were ten cows and two calves in all for which requisite permission had been obtained from the Kollur police and the local *gram panchayat* apart from an authorisation letter from the main Ashram. Maitri Kashyap Swami, the chief of Kollur Ashram and Joseph, were travelling in the same truck which was being driven by Michael. At Koteswar the truck was forced to a halt by two men on a bike. It was around 10:30 in the night. The two-some asked for the records and then called their associates to the spot. Soon around 40 activists arrived. They fell upon and seriously injured all the three occupants of the truck and escaped. When the police learned about the incident they came and shifted all the three injured to a hospital. A case has been registered at the Kundapur police station. Three police teams have been formed to nab the miscreants. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 6th.

20.6.2014. Mangalore.

Cable Singh and Sukka Singh were transporting cattle from Ludhiana (Punjab) to a cattle shelter in Kerala. The two trucks with more than 30 head of cattle had taken the Mangalore route to Kerala. As soon as the trucks reached Mangalore activists of Bajrang Dal got wind of it. They followed the vehicles and forced them to a stop near Ullal and asked the driver for the papers. When they found that the transporters had a letter of permission from the Punjab unit of Vishwa Hindu Parishat, the vehicles were handed over to the Ullal police. The latter are said to have made inquiries with the driver and allowed the vehicles to proceed. – *Prajavani*, 21st.

11.8.2014. Mangalore.

Vittal Shetty, a farmer from Porkody had purchased some cattle from Moodabidre and was transporting them to his place in a pick-up vehicle. Upon coming to know that the owner of the pick-up was a Muslim, members of a certain organisation stopped the vehicle near Edapadavu and took it to the Bajpe police station. When the police made enquiries they found that there were valid certificates of sale of the cattle to Vittal Shetty. The latter was called to the station and the cattle (A cow and three calves) were handed over to him. – *Prajavani*, 12th.

Note: There are no reports about police having taken any action against person/s making the false complaint – Compiler.

23.8.2014. Mangalore.

A vehicle transporting 12 heads of cattle from Uppinangady was waylaid by a group of nearly 50 miscreants near Capitanio in Mangalore tonight. Driver Abdul Samir and cleaner Shoukat Ali were pulled out and attacked with lethal weapons. They were beaten and dragged by hair for nearly a kilometer upto Pumpwell circle. A third person Fayaz is said to have managed to escape. When the police arrived the miscreants ran away. Both men have been admitted to hospital. Abdul has been taken to the ICU and his condition is said to be serious. Shoukat has suffered multiple fractures. The have clarified that the cattle were not stolen. However a case has been registered against them for violation of Transport of Animals Act. Five persons have been arrested in this connection. They are Prakash Vishwanath (38), Manoj Ganapathy (34), Umesh Babu Poojary (33), Anil Sudhaker and Shivaj Jayakumar (23). – *Vartha Bharathi*, 25 & 26th.

24.8.2014. Moodabidre.

Sunder, a cattle broker from Amburi (near Beluvai) had arranged for the purchase of a cow from a local person for sale to others. He had paid Rs 3500 and brought the cow to his house and was waiting for the purchasers Safan and Anees who had promised to be there at 6:30 pm. But before that some persons arrived on three or four motorcycles and asked him to come out. He stated the facts when they made enquiries regarding the cow. But they were not satisfied and took him to the seller's house. Despite the latter too confirming the sale of the cow, the group was in no mood to relent. They assaulted Sunder and threatened him. – *Karavali Ale*, 26th.

24.8.2014. Kadaba.

A complaint has been lodged at the Kadaba police station by Karim (18) from Niraje of Ramakunj village saying while he was transporting a cow and a calf purchased from Perla Ganesh of Koila, a group of persons stopped the vehicle at Nelyottu and assaulted him on his face, head and waist. Karim is admitted to a private hospital at Puttur. The police swung into action and arrested Satish Poojary (24), his brother Santosh (26), Venugopal (26), Vedanath (23) and Radhakrishna Shetty (31). The arrested were produced before the court on 25th. – *Vijaya Karnataka*, 26th.

19.9.2014. Bantwal.

Ivan D'Souza, Taslim, Bashir and Ashok were transporting cattle in a pick-up vehicle. A group of Sangh Parivar activists reportedly stopped the vehicle at Tumbya in Kasba village and called the police. The police arrived at the spot and took Ivan into custody. His associates managed to escape. The police said they recovered valuables worth Rs 3.36 lakh in addition to the cattle. Ivan has filed a counter complaint alleging that Prashant, Tilak Raj, Umesh and others attacked them shouting anti Christian and anti-Muslim slogans and abused and threatened them. The police have arrested three of the alleged attackers. – *Vartha Bharathi, 20th*.

21.9.2014. Bantwal.

When Bantwal police tried to stop a vehicle that was transporting three heads of cattle to Mangalore it did not stop. When the police chased the vehicle and stopped the driver and his two associates escaped. Activists of Sangh Parivar came to know that Mujaz, one of the escapees had taken shelter inside a house at Badagabellur. They are said to have forcibly entered the house and caught Mujaz and handed him over to the police. It is learnt that the activists assaulted the inmates of the house and a complaint to this effect has been registered. Based on the complaint the police have taken eight persons into custody. Reportedly among the assault victims are a pregnant woman and an old man. – *Vartha Bharathi, 22nd*.

26.9.2014. Bantwal.

Ibrahim has lodged a complaint with the Bantwal police stating that while he was on his way to Melkar to take a calf from Appayya's place to the veterinary hospital Shanker stopped him, abused him and threatened to set fire to his vehicle and to kill him. The police have registered a case. – *Vartha Bharathi, 27th*.

28.9.2014. Vittal.

Ramanna Poojary (57) of Kabaka in Puttur was taking two heads of cattle in his vehicle (APE) from Bairikatte to Kabaka. Some Sangh Parivar activists of Kabaka somehow got wind of this and informed the police at Puttur. The latter immediately swung into action, took the driver and the vehicle into custody and later handed them over to the Vittal police. The latter have registered a case and are investigating. – *Vartha Bharathi, 29th*.

2.10.2014. Karkal.

When Karkal police got a tip-off about cattle being kept for illegal slaughter they raided a house at Banglegudde and took 7 bullocks and 2 cows into custody. – *Karavali Ale, 3rd*.

2.10.2014. Bantwal.

Bashir (22) and Siddiq (32) were transporting the two bullocks they had purchased from Surikumeru early in the morning. The vehicle was forced to stop at Poorlipadi by parking a pick-up in the middle of the road. The cattle-carrying vehicle tried to avoid hitting the pick-up and fell into a ditch. Five persons got out of the pick-up and along with others attacked Bashir and Siddiq with swords and steel rods. While Siddiq received deep cuts on his limbs, neck and back, Bashir suffered deep injuries to his head, hand and leg. Both have been admitted to a private hospital in Mangalore. Seven out of the fifteen attackers have been identified and their names are Mithun, Dhiraj, Kamalaksha, Yatiraj, Chetan, Bharat and Raviraj. All are said to be from near Kalladka. According to police one of the attackers has been arrested and a also a case of illegal cattle transportation has been booked against Bashir and Siddiq. Additional police personnel have been deployed in the wake of rumours about group clashes. – *Vartha Bharathi, 3rd*.

The police have now arrested Mithun, Ganesh, Bhuvit, Vijeth and Abhijit and recovered the pick-up, a car and the weapons used during the attack. – *Karavali Ale, 4th*.

3.10.2014. Kundapur.

Learning that cattle were being transported for the purpose of slaughter in connection with Tiru Onam festival, some local persons went to Gulvadi and found a cow, a bull and a calf at Abubakr's house. The police were called in and they have taken the cattle in their possession and registered a case against Abubakr. – *Karavali Ale, 4th*.

4.10.2014. Vittal.

Alleging that cattle were being transported illegally to Kerala from Alike, a group of youth stopped the vehicle at Kanyana and assaulted the driver Chandru and Abdul Razak. The latter managed to run away and got admitted to a hospital in Puttur. Meanwhile the attackers broke the glasses and poured salt into the vehicle's fuel tank. The victims have lodged a complaint of assault against Satish and four other persons. – *Karavali Ale, 5th*.

18.10.2014. Mangalore.

Dakshina Kannada Milk Union Ltd (DKMUL) has said that according to a survey conducted by them production of milk has come down in the district mainly because of an increase in the number of milch cows being slaughtered. It has alleged that 10 to 20% milch cows are transported to slaughter houses in the neighbouring districts. The members of DKMUL have further alleged that at several check posts such as Siddapur, Agumbe, Hebri etc cattle transport vehicles are allowed to pass without any checks. – *Karavali Ale, 19th*.

8.11.2014. Mangalore.

A group of youth interrupted a vehicle at Muranagar near Bajpe after receiving information that it was transporting cattle. When they found a single cow inside they detained the three persons in the vehicle and informed the police. The latter rushed to the spot and took the three persons and the vehicle into custody. The transporters have given a statement that they were taking the cattle for the purpose of rearing it. – *Prajavani*, 9th.

14.11.2014. Mangaluru.

Based on a tip-off by saffron outfits who had followed a vehicle transporting cattle to Chembugudde at Ullal, police raided an illegal slaughter house at the residence of MC Bava and took into custody more than 15 heads of cattle, several quintals of beef and 6 barrels containing fat the house. Meanwhile Bava managed to escape the police net. – *Karavali Ale*, 15th.

18.11.2014. Mangaluru.

A picture doing the rounds on WhatsApp shows a picture of a cow with a call to “Cut off the hands of cattle thieves.” At the top is written Sri Rama Sena D.K. District. The message is purportedly sent by S.J.Shashank Acharya whose name appears at the bottom. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 19th.

The KCSV has given a written complaint in this regard to the Pandeshwar police on November 20. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 23rd.

26.11.2014. Puttur.

Reportedly, Mohammed, resident of Gadiyar Sattikal at Mani had purchased a cow and a calf from Abubakr of Nuji and was transporting the cattle to his home in an autorickshaw. he is said to have been questioned and later assaulted by Chandra Acharya and Prasanna. In a later development a group of persons allegedly attacked Anees and Rafiq who were going on a motorcycle. All three are receiving medical treatment for their injuries. Mohammed has lodged a police complaint against his attackers. Anees and Rafiq to have complained that a group of around 25 men consisting of Santhosh, Manju, Kiran, Vignesh, Chandra, Prasanna and others have assaulted and stabbed them with a knife. Chandra Acharya, his wife Vishalakshi and son Manoj have got themselves admitted to a hospital at Puttur and filed a counter-complaint alleging that Mohammed, Anees and Rafiq trespassed into their house and assaulted them. The police have registered a case against Mohammed under the cattle Transportation Act and are investigating. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 27th.

8.12.2014. Belthangady.

A cow trader and his helper were attacked in Bilalsuradi near Belthangady in the early hours of December 9 allegedly by a 50-member group.

The police said that the trader, Hussain Malebettu (51) and his aide Rukmayya (50) were attacked when they were reportedly loading some seven heads of cattle.

The group, wielding rods and clubs, suddenly arrived and started hitting them. Mr. Hussain, who is admitted to Government Wenlock Hospital, said he shouted for help when he was being dragged to a nearby river.

The group fled the spot when they noticed a police team. Mr. Rukmayya, who was also targeted, has been injured and admitted to a hospital.

The driver of the vehicle and two others managed to escape. The police have registered a case against the attackers.

Meanwhile, there is a counter complaint against the victims saying they were stealing cattle and loading them into the vehicle. The police are questioning those involved in the two cases. – *The Hindu*, 10th.

The Belthangady police arrested five persons on December 10 in connection with the attack. They are Shashidhar Gowda (23), Giriappa Gowda (38), Yogish Gowda (26), Manjunath Acharya (19) and Vasanth (24). – *Vartha Bharati*, 11th.

9.12.2014. Mangaluru.

Activists of Hindu Mahasabha stopped a pick-up van carrying two heads of cattle near Tannirbavi and called the police. The latter rushed to the spot, checked the papers and found that the cattle were meant for rearing. But the protesting activists were unrelenting despite the explanations by the police. However after a while the activists ended their protest and went away. No complaints have been lodged. – *Vartha Bharati*, 10th.

Incidents of Hate Speech

5.1.2014. Mangalore.

Speaking at a 'Hindu Sangama' public meeting organized at the Vajradehi Math in Gurpur, RSS leader Kalladka Prabhaker Bhat made controversial remarks on

Muslims and Christians. He said "Things have come to such a pass that we are beginning to suspect if our Hindu girls who attend school will ever return home. Some Byaris (local Muslims) are always waiting to entrap them. The moment our girl starts talking to them it would mean that she is 'gone'.It is because Hindus revere cows that Muslims deliberately slaughter them.In the name of ending blind beliefs they are destroying our faith....." Pointing out that the practices of burqa and Sunnat he asked if these were not blind beliefs, he mocked at them saying they might be getting all facilities probably because they are considered as disabled.Muslims and Christians are the real communalists. Children going to convent schools should address the padres as padre and not father.Hindus of the district are like dead persons. At least now they should get up. We are like foxes and not sheep." Another speaker, Chakravarti Sulibele said "It was Hindu Dharma which Hindu Dharma also has sanctioned violence in the cause of religion. Hence it becomes inevitable to take up arms when scriptures are not followed." – '*Jaya Kirana*', 6th.

Mohammed Usman from Mallur has filed a complaint against KP Bhat saying that he has made a communally provocative speech in which he has insulted a particular community. But in an unexpected development, the JMFC court, acting upon a private complaint, has directed the Bajpe police to register cases against Usman under IPC 153A and 295A and start necessary investigations. - "*Karavali Ale*", 11th.

9.1.2014. Mangalore.

The 'Mahila Jagruti Vedike', a new outfit floated by the Sangh Parivar, held a protest meeting at the Nehru Maidan here asking the state government to take suitable action in the Deralakatte kidnap incident. Kamala Prabhaker Bhat, wife of Kalladka Prabhaker Bhat, made provocative statements in the course of her presidential speech. She asked Hindu women 'to turn into Chandī, Chamundi and take up the sabers from their homes and come to the streets'. - "*Karavali Ale*", 10th.

16.2.2014. Bantwal.

A 'Hindu Shakti Sangam' program was organized by the Hindu Hitarakshan Samiti of Kolnadu at Vivek Nagar in Salethur. The program is said to be a part of the celebration of the 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. It was presided over by Kalladka Prabhaker Bhat, the 'Dakshin Madhya Kshetriya Sampark Pramukh' of the RSS. Mr Bhat delivered yet another communally provocative speech during which he made derogatory remarks and unsubstantiated allegations against the Muslim community. Another speaker, Adarsh Gokhale talked about 'love jihad' and the necessity for raising the religious flag at the Red Fort and making India a Hindu Rashtra. In order to achieve this, our nation needs a strong leader, he said. Several Swamijis and other hindutva leaders were present on the dais. - "*Vartha Bharati*", 17th.

2.3.2014. Bantwal.

Speaking to the gathering at the 'Jagrut Hindu Sangam' held at B.C.Road, Kalladka Prabhaker Bhat, 'Dakshin Madhya Kshetriya Sampark Pramukh' of the RSS made yet another provocative speech. He talked about how the Congress historians have distorted history to falsely project Tipu Sultan as a patriot. He also made the usual references to 'crores of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants' and 'undue favours being shown to the Muslim minority'. He said a Ram Mandir at Ayodhya must be built and dared Muslims to step inside Ayodhya. In the meantime a large number of Muslim youth had gathered near the Kaikamba Arch. They asked the police not to allow any provocative slogans during the scheduled procession. In view of this the police strictly enforced a ban on slogan-shouting during the procession. They also cut it short and limited it to the traffic circle in front of Rakteshwari temple. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 3rd.

24.4.2014. Mangalore.

As per a complaint lodged by Rajesh Pavitran, district president of Akhil Bharat Hindu Yuvak Sabha, a case under IPC section 153 (a) has been registered at the Pandeshwar police station against Ali Hasan, president of Muslim Traders Association for his speech delivered on April 20. Mr Hasan allegedly said "Don't be rejected by the country and die. We will not stop transport of cattle. I challenge the Bajrangis and the police to stop our trade." – *Vartha Bharathi*, 25th.

28.4.2014. Udupi.

Only shoot-outs can stop the transport and slaughter of cows in the state and hence hundreds of policemen like Navin Naik who shot cow-slaughterer Kabir ought to be born said the Karkala BJP MLA Sunil Kumar. He was speaking at a public meeting held here to protest the arrest of Navin Naik. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 29th.

10.5.2014. Mangalore.

"Hindu society should cut-off the hands of anyone who slaughters cows". These words were uttered by Swami Pranavananda of the 'Bharat Kranti Sena'. He was speaking during a hunger strike organised by the Sena in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office here. He condemned the arrest of Navin Naik, the Anti-Naxal Force policeman who had on April 19 shot and killed the cattle transporter Kabir near Shringeri. It is learnt that the DC, fearing an outbreak of communal riots, asked the Sena to withdraw its strike. – *Karavali Ale*, 11th.

The Pandeshwar police have registered a case against Pranavananda upon a complaint filed by Shamun Khan. – *Karavali Ale*, 12th.

14.11.2014. Mangaluru.

Addressing a press conference, Pramod Mutalik, head of Sri Rama Sena called for cutting off the hands of rapists before taking them to the court for a legal fight. He said it would teach a lesson to all rapists. He also announced that his organisation would bear all the costs of persons who break rapists' hands. Mutalik said Sri Rama Sena condemned the parents of a Muslim girl for opposing her conversion and marriage to a Hindu boy. He said Hindus were angry with the parents for defiling a place of worship with their footwear and asked the police to take strict action. It may be recalled that Madhush and Zahida both residents of Vamanjur had fallen in love and got married to each other at Arya Samaj premises on November 14. Later when the couple visited the Koragajja temple at Urwa Market to seek the deity's blessings Zahida's parents and relatives tried to assault them. When the matter was reported to the Barke station the police rescued the couple and registered cases against the attackers. – *Karavali Ale*, 17th.

Details of criminal (communal) cases against Nalin Kumar Katil, the BJP candidate for the 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

At Sullia JMFC court. Case no: CC 1238/2010. IPC 120 B), 153, 153(A), 153(B), 501, 504, 506 and 34.

(During the 2009 Lok Sabha election campaign, Katil had made an inflammatory speech at Sullia bus stand in which he had insulted people of another religion.)
Karavali Ale, 14th.

Sukesh, the local reporter for Suvarna TV has started getting threat calls through telephone and social web sites after he aired a report about Nalin Kumar Katil. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 17th.

Other incidents of communalism

1.1.2014. Mangalore.

Tafsil Arif from Ulal and Ahmed Isak from Krishnapura were going from Urwa to Mannagudda by motorcycle. Near Ladyhill, a person who was crossing the road happened to come in their way. The two youths stopped the motorcycle and asked him to be careful while crossing a road. After this they resumed their

journey. Suddenly a car overtook them and forced the motorcycle to a stop. Four men got down and started attacking Tafsil and Isak. Tafsil received serious injuries and has been admitted to a hospital. In his complaint to the Barke police, he has named one of the attackers as Sonu. - *"Vartha Bharathi"*, 1st.

2.1.2014. Mangalore.

Veerappa has lodged a complaint with the Kavour police stating that while he was walking near the Moodushedde Bhajana Mandir at around 7 p.m. he was attacked by a group consisting of Faizal, Nawaz, Ibrahim, Lambu Hamid, Ammi, Belli Monu, Saifulla, Ilyasa, Nasir, Abbu and Imran. A counter complaint has been filed to the effect that Veerappa, Harish Prakash, Jayant, Daya Maistry, Nagu, Varun, Laxman, Deepu and Dilip, while chasing Faizal, entered Khatijamma's house and assaulted Khatijamma, her daughter Safiya and her grand-daughters Suzina and Sirina. - *"Vartha Bharathi"*, 3rd.

8.1.2014. Puttur.

Banners announcing the forthcoming *Id Milad* festival had been put up in the vicinity of the Kurnadka mosque. However three youth belonging to the Shakti organization made an attempt to tear up the banners at night. Clearly their intention was to create unrest in the society. But members of the public caught them in the act and gave them a sound thrashing. Later they were handed over to the police. It is being alleged that this was the same gang which was responsible for tearing a banner of a temple just a few days ago. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 10th.

12.1.2014. Bantwal.

Damodar, a resident of Kenjilapadavu in Ira village, has lodged a complaint with the police of having received death threats from a gang of six persons. According to him, while he was washing his vehicle at home in the evening suddenly six persons arrived on motorcycles and barged into his house. He says Dinesh alias Ram Belchada (30), Ranjan alias Thimmappa Saphlya (40), Ashok alias Chandra (35) and three others whom he can identify berated him saying he was stealing cows at night and selling them to Muslims and that he was supporting Muslims. "They threatened to kill all of us after assaulting my wife Usha and son Sharan Kumar. Then they went away. But their death threats continued over mobile phones (7411769119, 9741885297, and 9008323925). They asked me not to lodge any police complaint and told me that they have full control over Pandeshwar and Bantwal police stations." Damodar has stated. Locals too allege that the gang is involved in threatening people and is carrying on illegal activities because of its political backing. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 14th.

13.1.2014. Mangalore.

Two cricket teams of Pritinagar in Kulai (**It may be noted that the teams appear to be formed along religious lines - compiler**) fought with each other on a matter of settling the bet amount. This was sought to be turned into a communal flare-up by unscrupulous elements. The match had taken place around three weeks ago. On 13 January as Ijaz was going on his motorcycle, Anil and four others stopped him and demanded the betting amount. When Ijaz refused he was hit on the head. Ijaz ran away and informed his team members. Later at 8:30 pm Ijaz, Afiyaz and Tousif accompanied by a group of 10-15 persons forced their way inside a Pritinagar house. They asked for Anil and unable to find him, pushed Anil's father Sadashiva Acharya and mother Lalita down and created a rumpus. When Nitin and Devaraj came to enquire, the group beat them with cricket bats and stumps and chased them away. All the injured have been admitted to a private hospital at Mukka. In retaliation Devraj, Subhit Nikhil and others lay in wait for Ijaz Ahmed. When they spotted him on a motorcycle at around 9:45 pm, he was stopped, abused and assaulted with cricket bats and stumps. Ijaz has been admitted to a private hospital at Suratkal, it is learnt. - *"Karavali Ale", 14th. & 17th ; "Vartha Bharathi", 15th.*

Tension prevailed in Kulai on Wednesday (January 15) during the procession of Eid-Milad-un-Nabi that followed tussle between groups of different communities over a betting issue. The police intervened to prevail upon the procession organisers to cut short the procession and prevent possible disturbance of peace in the area.

According to police, members of Om Shakti Cricket club and Green Stars club had a cricket match two weeks ago in which the Green Stars Club got defeated. The members of the club had agreed that the defeated team will pay the winning team an amount of Rs. 7,000. Following defeat, the Green Stars Club paid only around Rs. 3,000.

On Monday (January 13), members of Om Shakti Club called a few members of the Green Stars Club to a house in Kulai to ask for the remaining amount, the police said. Ijaz Ahmed and his friend, who are members of Green Stars club, went to the place. Mr. Ahmed allegedly did not agree to pay the amount and walked out of the house.

As he and his friend were riding down on a motorcycle, Ijaz Ahmed, who was riding a pillion, was hit on his head with a cricket stump. While Ijaz was taken to a hospital, his friends barged into the house of Anil, a member of Om Shakti Club and created a ruckus, the police said.

Tension prevailed in the area as the Eid-Milad-un-Nabi procession was to pass cross a Bahajan centre where supporters of Om Shakti Club had gathered. The police spoke to procession organisers and convinced them to stop it at a Masjid in Kulai. Assistant Commissioner of Police Ravi Kumar chaired a peace committee meeting near the Masjid.

The Suratkal police are questioning three persons from each group in connection with the incident. – *The Hindu*, 16th.

14.1.2014. Mangalore.

A group of youths gathered near the Krishna Mandir [Gopala Krishna Bhajana Mandir] raised objections to the *Id Milad* procession that was scheduled to pass in front of the Mandir. The police arrived at the spot and tried to disperse the group but they did not budge. Later at night, the police held a peace meeting with several religious leaders in order to try and resolve the issue. -“*Vartha Bharathi*”, 15th.

It is now established that the news about someone from the *Id Milad* procession throwing stones at the Krishna Mandir was not at all true. Actually it was nothing but a conspiracy to create communal disturbances. This is corroborated by the fact that no complaint of stone-throwing has been registered at the Suratkal police station. Both the Suratkal Inspector Nagaraj and the Assistant Commissioner of Police Ravi Kumar have confirmed this. According to Ibrahim, secretary of the Kulai mosque, the procession had gone from the Kulai mosque to the Idgah mosque at Krishna Nagar accompanied by around 250 policemen including the ACP and the Inspector. While the procession was about to return they were told by the police that there was an input about a crowd gathered in front of the Krishna Mandir based on a rumour of stone-throwing. Hence, the police ordered that the procession should end at the mosque itself and not proceed further towards the Honnakatte junction as earlier permitted. The police order was complied with. Ibrahim pointed out that even during the subsequent peace meet, no one brought up the subject of stone-throwing. Meanwhile in view of the tense situation the police are maintaining a strict vigil. - “*Karavali Ale*”, 17th.

17.1.2014. Mulki and Bantwal.

A banner with a picture of Tipu Sultan, put up by Muslims of Mulki in connection with *Id Milad* was found damaged on 18th morning. Similarly a banner on Modi at the Ira village in Bantwal was found defaced with paint. It is reported that such incidents are on the increase and it is attributed to the forthcoming general elections. - “*Karavali Ale*”, 19th.

18.1.2014. Sullia.

There were two protest meets in Sullia town on the issue of the new ‘Tipu Sultan’ circle built at Navur. The BJP group comprising Harish Kanjipili and others staged a protest in front of the Sullia Panchayat office demanding the removal of the unauthorized structure. The Nagarika Hitarakshana Samiti consisting of leaders of Congress, SDPI and others demanded that the ‘Tipu Sultan’ circle should not be demolished; but if the authorities still insisted they should first

vacate all the other unauthorized structures before demolishing the Tipu circle. - *"Vartha Bharathi"*, 19th.

The circle was demolished by the Panchayat personnel in the early hours of January 20 under full police protection. When members of the Nagarika Hitarakshana Samiti came to know of the demolition they held a protest meet and demanded to know why the demolition was carried out after holding a peace meeting the previous day. They insisted that all other unauthorized structures be similarly demolished. - *"Vartha Bharathi"*, 21st.

19.1.2014. Manipal.

Around 50 persons including Dhiraj Shetty, Vishwanath, Suresh, Sushanth, Shiva, vanaja, Nalini, Subraya, Nitin, Sathish, Harish who claimed to be members of Bajrang Dal erected a wall on the road leading to the house of a Christian lady Jacintha D'Souza. Bajrang Dal had earlier in November 2013 erected a similar wall which was later ordered to be demolished by the Deputy Commissioner of Udupi. The DC had at the time issued a warning to the perpetrators and had asked Jacintha to photograph the event in case they re-erected the wall. Today when Jacintha's daughter Shweeny took out her camera activists snatched it away, assaulted her and pulled at her dress. They also attacked her sister Shruti, brother-in-law Kiran D'Souza and father Philip D'Souza. Protesting the incident, the International Federation of Christian Organisations of Karnataka held a demonstration on January 20. The protesters condemned the police inaction and submitted a memorandum asking the DC and the SP to take immediate action. - *"Vartha Bharathi"*, 21st.

20.1.2014. Mangalore.

Kalander Shakeel (28) had just closed his grocery shop at the Honnakatte junction in Kulai and was going home in his motorcycle. His house is located near Bharati School on MRPL road. As his bike took a turn near the school, suddenly four youth attacked him with steel rods and wooden sticks. Kalander while trying to shield his head received a hit on his hand. But he managed to escape by jumping across a compound wall. When residents of nearby houses raised an alarm the attackers ran away. Kalander has been admitted to a hospital in Mangalore. Upon receipt of information about the attack, the Suratkal police rushed to the spot and recovered the weapons used for the attack and the CCTV footage from the house of Siddiq. It is said that Kalander had refused to take back a case he had booked against members of a certain hindutva organization who had attacked his shop during the procession of the dead body of Kodikere Shivaraj (murdered by unknown assailants). According to another version Kalander was part of the group that had supposedly trespassed into a house at Pritinagar and assaulted an elderly couple in connection with the cricket betting controversy (see: **13.1.2014. Mangalore**). - *"Karavali Ale"*, 21st.

21.1.2014. Mangalore.

Close on the heels of the above incident, a Muslim youth, Muneer was stabbed by unidentified miscreants at night. Muneer (25) was returning home after visiting a relative in a hospital. A car stopped by and in the pretext of asking some address, stabbed Muneer and quickly raced away. According to Muneer the occupants of the car were conversing in Tulu. Muneer is the brother of Mysore Bava who was allegedly involved in a few criminal activities. - *"Deccan Herald"*, 23rd.

23.1.2014. Padubidri.

A huge cut-out of Narendra Modi put up at Kalya in Uliyaragoli village of Kaup was set on fire sometime at night. Hundreds of Modi followers gathered at the spot when the mischief was discovered early next morning (on 24 January). As the tension started building up Ramesh Hegde Kalya, administrator- in-charge of the new Marigudi temple and Shantram Prabhu, a RSS leader intervened and brought the situation under control. A police complaint has been lodged regarding destruction of the cut-out. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 25th.

27.1.2014. Mangalore.

Two men armed with a steel rod and a sword rushed inside Shri Madhav Marbles shop at Kulai and attacked Sudarshan Poojary, an employee. When Sudarshan fell down the miscreants ran away. Some members of the public took the grievously hurt Sudarshan to a private hospital nearby from where he was later shifted to AJ Hospital at Mangalore. Sudarshan is a neighbour of Kalander Shakeel who had recently been attacked near his home (see **20.1.2014. Mangalore**). - *"Karavali Ale"*, 28th.

The Suratkal police have arrested Wahab, Ramiz and Ahmed Qureshi on 31.3.2014 in connection with murder of Sudarshan. All three are said to be members of the Karnataka Forum for Dignity (now Popular Front of India). The police have confirmed that the attack on Sudarshan was not connected with that on Shakeel. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 1st April.

29.1.2014. Padubidri.

A second banner of Modi put up at the same place where it had been set fire to on 23 January, was once again found in a burnt condition. Hundreds of local BJP workers gathered and demanded that the miscreants be arrested before February 1. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 30th.

30.1.2014. Vittla.

A banner put at at Panolibail, announcing the forthcoming “Hindu Shakti Sangam” program scheduled for February 16 was found burnt down by miscreants at night. It may be noted that during the aforesaid program, more than 20 right-wing hindutva leaders including four swamijis and the RSS pracharak Kalladka Prabhaker Bhat are scheduled to address a gathering of around 15000 persons. A complaint has been lodged with the Bantwal police. - “*Karavali Ale*”, 31st.

1.2.2014. Padubidri.

Miscreants have damaged two banners at Kanajaru in Ermalu. While one of the banners was put up by supporters of Vinay Kumar Sorake, state minister for Fisheries, the other was by supporters of Narendra Modi, the prime ministerial candidate. The villagers feel that the district administration should take strict measures as regards this poster war which is resulting in unnecessary tensions in the society. - “*Karavali Ale*”, 3rd.

3.2.2014. Puttur.

Muslims of Kodineeru in Mundor village had erected a green flag and a banner announcing *Id Milad*. These were asked to be removed by another group that wanted to put up a banner of Narendra Modi nearby. This resulted in a verbal duel. Meanwhile the two groups grew in number. Ultimately the second group vacated the place. But the local people are an extremely worried lot. Erection of such unauthorized banners is a potential cause for communal tensions they feel. - “*Karavali Ale*”, 4th.

5.2.2014. Mangalore.

A communal flare-up reportedly took place in the early hours in Ullal at the city outskirts. Armed Mogavir (a local fishing community) boys were lying in wait for some miscreants who had allegedly been throwing stones at their houses. Around 1 am two men on a motorcycle happened to come that way. Mohammed Javed and Ravan were actually returning after attending an *uroos*. But the Mogavir group mistook the two for the miscreants and tried to chase them. Javed and Ravan escaped leaving their motorcycle at the spot. They narrated the incident to other youth of their community who went in a crowd to Mogavirpatna (the locality where Mogavirs are in majority) and started throwing stones, attacking people and damaging vehicles. It is said that hundreds of people from both communities came out on the streets but finally the police managed to prevent a larger conflagration. - “*Karavali Ale*”, 5th.

(Note: **A team from the local PUCL and the Komu Souharda Vedike conducted a fact-finding exercise into the entire incident. Their joint report is reproduced below - Compiler**)

FINAL REPORT
of
FACT-FINDING
on
THE FEBRUARY 5 & 6 DISTURBANCES IN ULLAL

Carried out by: **PUCL & KARNATAKA KOMU SOUHARDA VEDIKE**

Dates: **FEBRUARY 12 and 13, 2014.**

Team Members: P.B.D'Sa (President, PUCL, Karnataka), Suresh Bhat B (President, KKS Vedike D.K), M. Kabeer Ullal, (Vice-president, PUCL D.K), Ismat Phajeer (Secretary, KKS Vedike D.K), Bertram Pinto (Treasurer, PUCL), Colin D'Sliva (Member, PUCL). Vishwanath R Puthran (Vice-president, AHINDA) joined us on February 13.

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Ullal, an integral part of Greater Mangalore, is a large suburb located at a distance of about 10 km from the city. It has a total population of 1,36,049 out of which 50,689 are Hindus and 67,481 are Muslims. It has one police station comprising: 1 Inspector, 2 Sub-inspectors, 4 Assistant Sub-inspectors, 10 Head Constables, 33 Constables and one woman Constable. This number is woefully inadequate when one compares it with UN standards.

On February 6, 2014 the local media carried extensive reports of an eruption of "communal flare-up" in Ullal on the previous day, i.e., February 5. It was reported that as a result of these disturbances several houses, vehicles and a boat were damaged. Prohibitory orders under Section 144 were clamped on Ullal. The February 7 media reports spoke of groups clashing with each other on the basis of unconfirmed news. Reportedly Mogaveerpatna residents were agitated on hearing a rumour that one of their boats was set on fire. Soon a large number of Mogaveers gathered and began throwing stones at residents of Kotepura and Kodi. The Kotepura, Kodi residents retaliated. Ultimately the situation was brought under control by the intervention of police. But, prohibitory orders were continued for a few more days as a measure of precaution.

REPORT OF VISIT BY THE FACT-FINDING TEAM

By February 12 when the situation became normal the team decided to embark on its fact-finding mission. On that day the team visited several houses in Kotepura and Kodi on either side of the D Road and recorded the statements of the residents and observed the damages.

- √ House No:..... Name of resident: Athur Hamid Musliyar (41). Occupation: Working since 13 years as Moulvi at the local Badriya Juma Masjid in Kodi. He stays at a house adjacent to the mosque.

Athur Hamid's statement:

On February 6, people had attended the namaz as usual and it was over at 8:30 pm. At around 9:30 pm as he was walking towards his house some policemen asked him who he was. Apparently they were satisfied with his reply that he was a Moulvi for they went away. Soon thereafter a woman ASI and some policemen appeared and questioned him. Though he explained his identity they barged inside the mosque and assaulted him with lathis. His left leg sustained heavy injury. After the police left he went and stayed at a friend's house elsewhere. It was impossible then to get a vehicle to go to the hospital. Even next morning the autorickshaw drivers refused to ply without police protection. It was only on February 8 that he could go on my friend's motorcycle to the first aid center at Thokkottu. He was there from 10:30 am to 2 pm. But next day the pain instead of subsiding only increased and hence at around 11:30 – 12:00 in the morning he got admitted to Fr Muller's Hospital at Mangalore. He came to know that the police had banged his door again at night and then had gone to the owner of the house who stays nearby and arrested both him and his son Thoufiq.

Team's Observations:

Athur Hamid is lying on a cot with four stitches to his head and a bandage on the left leg.

- √ House No: 2-49. Name of resident: Salim. Occupation: Employed in a workshop at Mukkacheri. Wife's name: Razia. Son: Studying in 6th Std.

Razia's Statement:

On February 6 at around 10 pm a police team consisting of 10 men and 2 women banged the main door very hard. They asked for my husband but he was not at home. I gave him the information about the police raid over phone next morning. The police team came back on February 7 too.

Team's Observations:

Main door is damaged.

- ✓ House No: 2-52. Name of resident: Abubaker. Wifes name: Maimoona. Maimoona's parents Bava and Bifatumma also staying in the same house.

Maimoona's Statement

The police broke open the front door, rushed in and assaulted Abubaker with a wicket stump lying inside. Abubaker is asthmatic. With great difficulty he managed to run away. Police have broken the back door too.

Team's Observations:

Both the main and the back door are heavily damaged.

- ✓ House No: 2-53. Name of resident: Ashraf Bava. Occupation: Municipal councilor. ???????

- ✓ House No: 2-59/1. Name of resident: Khatijamma. Occupation: Housewife. Khatijamma happens to be a former (2001) municipal councilor.

Khatijamma's Statement

Policemen barged inside my home and abused me in filthy language. They smashed the windows.

Team's Observations:

Window glass panes found shattered to pieces.

- ✓ House No: 7-14/1. Name of resident: Ibrahim (43). Wife: Zohra.

Zohra's Statement

My husband Ibrahim is partially paralyzed. On the night of February 6, the policemen came in, damaged things, slapped Ibrahim, pulled him a little distance and when they realized he was paralytic they left him there and went away. Ibrahim is in Manjeshwar now.

Team's Observations:

Window glass panes found shattered to pieces.

- ✓ House No: 7-15. Name of resident: Mustafa (41). Occupation: Fishing. Mustafa owns a fishing boat.

Mustafa's Statement

Since his mother-in-law staying at Millat Nagar was unwell, he and wife had gone there on February 5 to see her. They stayed there till February 9. When they came back they found the front door lock was broken. He

suspects it must be the police. He is not sure if they were inside for a couple of hours or they stayed back and spent the whole night there. While going they have taken his electric torch away.

Team's Observations:

Front door lock (make: Universal) found bent probably with a heavy iron rod.

- ✓ House No: 7-21. Name of resident: Ayesha. Husband: Khalil (deceased). Son: **KHALIL (?)**. Occupation: He is a car driver.

Ayesha's Statement:

On February 7 at around 1 am, a police posse came and they hit the front door with lathis.

Team's Observations:

Round marks can be seen on the polished door.

- ✓ House No: 7-26. Name of resident: Khairunnisa. Husband: (deceased). Son: Mohammed Hanif. Daughter: Mehnaz.

Khairunnisa's Statement:

Son Mohammed works as a labourer. They were not at home since February 6. She is sure it was the police who on February 6 broke the front door lock, removed the latches and made an illegal entry. They took away Rs 2000 (two thousand) meant for purchasing medicines.

Team's Observations:

The door latch found lying on the floor. Slight damage to the door.

- ✓ House No: 7-95. Name of resident: Abubaker. Wife: Sharifa. Sons: Zakir and Saflan.

Sharifa's Statement:

Police hit the door with stones and broke it open. They rushed in and arrested both Zakir and Saflan.

Team's Observations:

Marks observed on door. Door and lock found slightly damaged.

- ✓ House No: 7-96/1. Name of Resident: Abubaker and Mayyaddi. Occupation; Fishing.

Abubaker and Mayyaddi's Statement:

They say when they take out the boats and go fishing it is always with Mogaveers. They also belong to the Fishermen's union which has a mixed membership of both Muslims and Mogaveers. They have people from Andhra, Tamilnadu etc working in their boats. They say the police assaulted these innocent workers.

According to them there were some 10-11 Muslim miscreants who were into drugs and this gang that had indulged in stealing and stone-throwing for the past one month. The Mogaveer women can recognize them. In the early hours of February 5, two Muslim boys were returning home on their motorcycle after attending an Uroos. The Mogaveers mistook them for the members of the gang and beat them up. Later the gang of miscreants was arrested by the police at 4:30 am and taken to Mangalore jail.

Two boats 'Suvidha' and 'Vyaghra Chamundeshwari' belonging to Dhanu and one boat 'Arun Sagar' belonging to Raghava Putran (both Mogaveers) were parked in their yard. During the period of disturbances they safely guarded the boats and saw to it that the boats were unharmed.

Mogaveers have a club called the Maruti Club.

Team's Observations:

Two windows of the house damaged with glass broken to pieces. Wooden floor of one boat damaged with a huge granite stone appxly 10"X6"X4". Another boat slightly damaged at the fo'c'sle end.

- ✓ Building: Solar Cricketers and Solar Yuvaka Mandala.

Team's Observations:

Found that almost all doors and windows have suffered extensive damage. Front door found broken open. Furniture inside found to have suffered heavy damage. Glass pieces could be seen all over the floor. Building inaugurated in 2002.

- ✓ House No: 2-56/10. Name of Resident: Mohiuddin.

Mohiuddin's Statement:

On February 5 at around 3:30 – 4:00 pm, he saw a large crowd of Mogaveer men and women gathered on the road. Some of them were carrying weapons such as wooden clubs. Police, though present, did not

disperse the crowd. He saw a couple of policemen arrive on a motorcycle near the house and signal to the crowd to advance. Mogaveers came and started attacking Muslims. Muslims retaliated by throwing stones at the mob. Police assaulted 4 Muslims.

A similar attack took place in the evening at around 6:30 – 7 pm.

- √ House No: 2-56/6. Name of Resident: Mohammed Mukri. Daughter: Zainabi. Daughter-in-law: Onisa. House Owner: Shaban.

Mohammed Mukri's Statement:

On February 5 at around 3 pm and again at around 8 pm, a mob of Mogaveers threw stones at their house right in the presence of police. One of the stones hit a pregnant Onisa and has damaged the cupboard.

Team's Observations:

Front of cupboard found to be slightly damaged. An electric bulb and a chair are the other items found damaged.

- √ House No: 2-56/9B. Name of Resident: UP Podimonu. Occupation: Door to door sale of fish in Mangalore.

Podimonu's Statement:

On the afternoon of February 5 he saw a mob of nearly 300 Mogaveers on the road in front. Some of them were carrying wooden clubs and stones. Udaya, Sunil, Sharat and others threw stones at his house. After this incident he left home with family. When they returned after a few days they found the main door of the house broken open and the house ransacked. He is sure it is the handiwork of the Mogaveer mob of February 6 which had gathered at around 8 pm. He says Rs 13,300 (Thirteen thousand three hundred) and a TV set are missing from the cabinet.

Team's Observations:

The front and back door, window glasses and roof AC sheets found damaged. There is no TV set inside the cabinet.

- √ House No: 2-56/9A. Resident's Name: Bifatumma (60). Son Hanif is deaf.

Bifatumma's Statement:

On February 5 at around 3:30 pm a whiskey bottle was thrown at the house. The bottle hit the window glass and shattered it. The police entered the house and beat up Hanif. Fearing further attacks she moved to a safer

location with her son. Apparently on February 6 the miscreants broke open the front door at night and entered inside. Since they could not open the cupboard they damaged the mirror. They carried away a TV set.

Team's Observations:

Several pieces of glass found on the bed. There is no TV set in the cabinet.

- √ Building: Sarvana Mansion. A two-storied structure. Outside, by the side of the road (Sea Road) a small board indicating Kodi Badriya bus stop found damaged.

(a) Ground floor House No: 2-7/2. Name of Resident: Kunhi Ahmed. Occupation: Labourer. Wife: Ayesha.

Ayesha's Statement:

A Mogaveer mob had gathered on the road in front. A couple of policemen arrived on a motorcycle on the stretch of road in front of the house. They signaled to the Mogaveer crowd who advanced and attacked the building with wooden clubs, stones and empty soda and liquor bottles.

Team's Observations:

Window and cupboard glasses found shattered. Loose shards of glass found lying outside the compound.

(b) First floor House: Name of Resident: Shamsuddin Madani.

Shamsuddin Madani's Statement:

He was away in Mumbai when trouble took place. He came back just today (February 13).

Team's Observations:

Window glasses found shattered.

- √ Building: a small shop. Location: Close to Sarvana Mansion. Owner: Shettigar.

Shettigar's Statement

2 sheets used for covering the shop were damaged on February 6 by police who came in a jeep at around 8:30 - 9 pm.

Team's Observations:

Two sheets were found missing.

- ✓ House No: 2-56/12. Name of Resident: Puthu Bava. Occupation: Works in Ayub's fish meal factory at Mangalore.

Puthu Bava's Statement:

On February 6 he was returning home as usual in a boat. He landed at Ullal at around 7:30 pm and was walking home. He saw a mob and police. Police hit him with lathi and chased him away. He fell down and was lying there for about half an hour, unable to walk. Police did not allow him to go to a hospital. He says he went to Ullal Diagnostic Center on February 12. Upon examination it was found that leg is fractured. Hence a bandage has been applied.

Team's Observations:

Puthu Bava's leg is found to be bandaged.

- ✓ House No: 6-15. Name of resident: Ismail Kodimonu.

Ismail's statement:

On February 6 at around 11:15 pm stones were pelted at his house. Though he informed the police at 11:20 they turned up only after about 3 hours.

Team's Observations:

Several roof tiles and glass panes of four windows found broken.

- ✓ House No: 6-130. Name of resident: Razak (80). Occupation: Painter. His aunt's son Hamid (52) sells tender coconuts.

Razak's Statement:

Police barged inside the house and arrested Hamid. Razak was pressurized to show other houses. Only two or three Muslim families live in this area. The rest are Hindus. He says they have good relations with their neighbors Sundari and Chennamma.

Team's Observations:

Door latch found damaged.

- ✓ Building: Cycle repair shop located on opposite side of the road. Owner: Lakshman Belchada.

Lakshman Belchada's Statement:

He says in general the different communities here live quite peacefully and maintain harmonious relations with one another.

- ✓ House No: 2-62. Name of resident: Rahim (42). Occupation: Auto driver. Wife: Nasima. Rahim's brother Fazal, a welder, also stays with them. House owner is Navaz who is a ship repair contractor.

Nasima's Statement:

On the night of February 6 police forced open the front door, rushed in and arrested both Rahim and Fazal. Police were hurling abuses at them. Then they went up to the first floor, took the keys from Nasima, opened the cupboard and took away Rs 7000 (Seven thousand) and a mobile phone no : 9980898905.

Team's Observations:

The front door is partially damaged. The back door lock is found broken. Hinge of another door is broken.

- ✓ House No: 2-63. Name of resident: Ashraf (42). Wife: Mumtaz.

Mumtaz's Statement:

A group of policemen forced open the door, came inside, assaulted Ashraf and arrested him. Children too were slapped. Police damaged several things.

Team's Observations:

One sheet of false ceiling found lying on the floor. A wall clock is found to be damaged. A broken wash basin found lying on the floor.

- ✓ House No: 2-64, 65 and 66. Name of resident: Sayyad. Wife: Maimoona. Sons: Nawaz and Imran. While Nawaz runs a furniture shop, Imran is employed as a welder in a workshop.

Sayyad's Statement:

The police forced open the front door, rushed inside and made a lot of ruckus. The police pulled away a gold chain from Maimoona's neck accusing her of not opening the door. Mobile phone no: 9986425435 also taken away by police. Navaz had been discharged from hospital on February 1 after undergoing an appendicitis operation on January 29.

Team's Observations:

The house is under renovation. The front door lock is found broken. Even the door frame is damaged due to the impact.

- ✓ The Place: Yenepoya Hospital, Deralakatte. Name of Patient: Shah Jahan. Occupation: Working in an arecanut processing godown at Thokkotu.

Shah Jahan's Statement:

On February 6 at around 8 pm he was going on his motorcycle with a friend on the pillion. Suddenly a group consisting of Udaya, Vikki and 3 others (Charan, Varun and Santhu) attacked him with sticks. His leg broke and started dangling. There was a police vehicle nearby but the police did not intervene. Without stopping the bike Shah Jahan proceeded straight to Kodi Badriya mosque. There were 100-150 men there. On the road opposite there were three Hindu rowdies. Police were not taking any action. Somebody took Shah Jahan to Netaji hospital from where he was shifted to Yenepoya.

Team's Observations:

Shah Jahan is lying on bed with one leg in bandage. He is grimacing with pain which makes it difficult for him to talk. The police targeting Shah Jahan but at the same time not taking any action on his attackers makes it appear as though the prohibitory orders were being enforced in a selective manner.

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DETAILS OF VISITS TO MOGAVEERPATNA ON FEBRUARY 13

On February 13 the team went round the damaged houses in Mogavirapatna situated on either side of Sea Road.

- ✓ House No: Name of Resident: Subhash Kotian. Occupation: Fishing. Wife: Vishalakshi. Son: Manish (19).

Vishalakshi's Statement:

The house belongs to her aunt (mother's sister) Vimala. Subhash goes for deep sea fishing on a *purse sein* boat with 15 partners. On February 4 Subhash had gone fishing as usual. At around 1 am on February 5 there was a knock on the door. Thinking that it must be Subhash returning from a fishing trip, she opened the door. Suddenly 4-5 persons rushed inside, caught hold of Manish, pulled to the road and there beat him with a wooden club. Later he was admitted to KS Hegde Hospital at Deralakatte.

Manish's Statement:

He has passed SSLC. He is presently working as an interior decorator. He and his friends operate a music band called Vyagra Friends. He was hit on

left side of head above the ear. He knows one of the attackers. Police have come to the hospital and taken his statement.

Team's Observations:

Manish has a dressing on his head. Doctor has recommended operation on right ear which has also been affected.

- ✓ House No: 3-31. Name of resident: Anup. Wife: Lolakshi

Lolakshi's Statement:

A gang of 9-10 Muslim youth smoking ganja have been creating trouble since the past one month.

- ✓ House No: N.A. It is a tiled hut. Residents: Siblings Pravin and Varija.

Team's Observations

Both Pravin and Varija were not at home at the time of the team's visit. Ranjit, our guide, told us that in the early hours of February 5 stones thrown at the house. A few roof tiles found broken.

- ✓ House No: Name of Resident: Dharmavati.

Team's Observations:

House found locked. Police personnel were guarding the house. Ranjit informed us that in the early hours of February 5, stones were pelted at the house. Window glass found shattered to pieces.

- ✓ Building: A small Shop. Door No: Owner: Narayana (belongs to *ganiga* community).

Narayana's Statement:

He has been running the shop for the past 18 years. Stones were pelted at his shop on February 5. As a result some roof tiles and a sheet in front suffered damages.

Team's Observations:

All the damaged tiles have already been replaced by owner. Front sheet found damaged.

- ✓ House No: 2-21. Name of Resident: Damodar Shettigar. Occupation: Autorickshaw driver. Wife: Kamini. Mother: Lingamma.

Sister: Jayalakshmi. Jayalakshmi's husband: Jayarama. Jayarama and Jayalakshmi stay in House No: 2-22 "Jayalakshmi Nivas" in the same compound.

Jayalakshmi's Statement:

On February 6 at around 8 pm stones were thrown at their houses from the direction of Badriya Juma mosque situated in the adjacent compound. There were some 20 persons there. A stone fell on Lingamma's feet. Similar incident had taken place exactly one week ago. At night around 8 youth used to sit on the compound wall, smoke beedis and ganja and indulge in stone-throwing. She has complained about this to mosque authorities. According to her this is the 9th such attack on their houses since 1990.

Team's Observations:

Two window glasses found shattered. A tubelight is damaged.

- ✓ Place: Kodi Badriya Juma Masjid. Moulvi: Athur Hamid Musliyar. Assistant Moulvi cum madrassa (Hidayat Subiya) teacher: Navaz Sakhafi.

Navaz Sakhafi's Statement:

A small gang of unruly Muslim boys were indulging in stone-throwing at Mogaveers' houses. On February 6 late evening Mogaveers threw stones at the mosque from outside the compound. The police instead of immediately controlling Mogaveer crowd allowed them sufficient time to do the damage. It is because of this that the entire incident got magnified.

Some 15 days ago there was a moral policing incident involving Hitaraj [a Mogaveer] and a [Muslim] woman from Phajeer. Hitaraj was beaten up by a group of Muslims. The pictures were uploaded on WhatsApp. The present disturbances during which the Mogaveers apparently took revenge could probably be the result of the Hitaraj incident and several other recent skirmishes between the two criminal gangs.

ANALYSIS & CONCLUSION

The Ullal region has an enviable history of communal harmony. Followers of different faiths have lived there in amity for the past hundreds of years. The famous queen Rani Abbakka who ruled the region in the 19th century and fought valiant battles against the British had employed people of all faiths in the various services of her kingdom including the armed forces. Fishing is the main occupation. It is jointly carried on by Mogaveers and Muslims. Usually it is the Mogaveers who catch the fish while it is the Muslim folk that do the marketing.

Communalization slowly crept in with the onset of country-wide communal riots, *rath yatra*, demolition of Babri Masjid, Gujarat pogrom etc. In 2006 there were communal riots in Ullal too in which the minorities suffered the most. The role of the police then had come in for sharp criticism since they were seen as being sympathetic to Sangh Parivar. In 2008 Sangh Parivar organisations attacked some churches in Ullal too.

The present Ullal incident cannot be seen in isolation but needs to be viewed as part of a series of attempts by the Bharatiya Janata Party to regain lost ground. The BJP had ruled the state from 2008 till 2013. The 2013 state assembly elections saw BJP lose almost all its seats in the district to its rival, the Congress. Now with the 2014 Lok Sabha elections round the corner, BJP appears extremely anxious to get back its lost base.

The recent, increasing incidents of communalism in the district including the major ones such as the Deralakatte and Kulai incidents appear to be part of the Sangh Parivar's game plan. Deralakatte and Kulai both started off as criminal cases but were soon sought to be turned into communal disturbances. From all indications the present Ullal incident too appears to be a continuation of the same series. It may be noted that among the 11 reasons quoted by the police in their submission before the 3rd JMFC Court of Mangalore asking for judicial custody, the first one states that there is an organised conspiracy to create Hindu - Muslim riots. Consider the February 8 newspaper reports which said there were a series of incidents in Kalladka (about 40 km from Mangalore on NH 48) which according to police had taken a communal turn. It is quite apparent that the main provocation for the Kalladka incidents (which occurred a couple of days later) was the Ullal incident.

A number of Ullal residents including Muslims have confirmed that there was an unruly group of Muslim youth that was indulging in consumption of drugs and about a month ago the group had started harassing Mogaveer residents by throwing stones at their houses, knocking on doors etc. This could be by accident or by design. It is not improbable that someone who deliberately wanted to provoke the Mogaveers could have hired the group to do this. Additionally rumours via SMS have played an important part. The alleged moral policing incident (quoted by the madrassa teacher) and other similar incidents may have served to whip up passions after the disturbances were set in motion. Baseless, mischievous rumours such as the one about boats being set on fire contributed to the creation of an artificial scare and led to an escalation of the disturbances. It is worth mentioning that it appears there are parallel gangs of Mogaveer and Muslim youth in Ullal that imbibe drugs and engage in criminal activities.

Details gathered by us point to the fact that the police who were deployed to prevent the formation of a mob and immediately disperse any such mob have failed in their duty. Instances have been reported wherein the police actually allowed the mob to attack some Muslim houses. The team has recorded

statements by many Muslims who say that the police themselves attacked their houses on February 6 & 7. The reason for this behavior could be found in the saffronization of the police. The same forces that wanted to provoke the Mogaveers might have instructed the police to act in a partisan manner. Notably the atrocities committed during these raids went unreported since media persons were denied entry to Kotepura, Kodi area. Under cover of extraordinary powers, the police have by their apparent partiality towards one community and brutal actions against the other only served to further alienate the latter. These have given rise to an unnecessary fear and hatred and persecution complex amongst the minority population. Partisan behaviour of police is apparent from the fact that in the case of injured Muslims (admitted to Fr Mullers and Yenepoya hospitals) the police did not bother to visit the victims and obtain statements and prepare FIRs. They did that only after PUCL took it up with the Commissioner of Police. In the case of Shah Jahan, one of the victims, the police had in fact filed a counter case first without bothering to take his statement.

For once the administration appears to have been refreshingly different. It remained firm and did not yield to pressure from any quarter including Ministers, MLA's, MP's and a bunch of Hindu (read: Hindutva) Religious Heads to visit the disturbed areas during the period of conflict. This helped prevent any probable escalation and to quickly bring the situation to normal.

We feel that only a thorough inquiry can bring out the role of the disruptive forces in fomenting the present disturbances. Such anti-social forces need to be quickly identified and nullified before they succeed in causing more untold harm. At the same time, it is most important to see to it that the confidence of minorities in the administration is restored. The creation of a neutral police force is essential for reassuring the minority populations and one of the first steps in this direction is to purge the force of criminal and communal elements.

6.2.2014. Bantwal.

Some miscreants threw a bottle from the terrace of Panchavati Complex in Kalladka which resulted in damages to the glasses of a car. The vehicle belongs to Haris, owner of Najath Sweets. The incident occurred at around 8 pm. Within minutes youth from both communities gathered in the town and the situation was threatening to turn out of control. But the Bantwal police arrived at the spot, dispersed the crowd and asked the shopkeepers to down their shutters. Soon the situation returned to normal. But reportedly at around 10 pm a group of youth gathered near the Sri Rama School and indulged in stone-throwing. Apparently they were targeting a house located behind a co-operative bank. A rival group then began to throw stones at the first group. Timely arrival of the police prevented a flare-up, it is said. - *"Karavali Ale", 7th*.

8.2.2014. Mangalore.

Stones were thrown at the Masjid-ul-Salam located in front of the Vishwamangala school at Konaje, a few kilometers from the center of the city. According to Ismail Nasir and Iqbal, president and secretary respectively of the mosque, around 2:30 am two miscreants riding a motorcycle came, threw stones at the window glasses and ran away. This is the third such incident of attack on the same mosque within a span of 12 months. - *"Vartha Bharati"*, 9th.

11.2.2014. Mangalore.

Doctors, students, paramedical students and staff of Yenepoya University staged a road-block in protest against the attack on Dr Niyaz, a post-graduate and the failure of the administration to act in time. Dr Niyaz had been attacked the previous day by a group of unknown persons. It was alleged that he had tried to molest a woman patient while examining her. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Prakash Harishchandra, a second-year post-graduate said that a nurse was present during the examination. But when Dr Niyaz noticed a person videographing it he objected. At this a group of unidentified men assaulted him. Kusuma, the nurse told media persons that she was present when Dr Niyaz was conducting the examination on the woman patient who had complaints of chest pain. She said even the patient's mother was also present there and no such molestation attempt took place. - *"Vartha Bharati"*, 12th.

11.2.2014. Gangolli.

A bag containing the skin and severed legs of a cow has been found near the Madivalara Kere located on the Church Road in Gangolli (Kundapur taluk). The police immediately took possession of the bag. A complaint has been registered. The Hindu Jagran Vedike has called for stringent action against the culprits responsible for the act. They also demanded strict action against persons carrying on illegal cow-slaughter. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 12th.

11.2.2014. Bantwal.

There appears to be a pattern behind the various incidents aimed at creating unrest in the district in the wake of the Ullal incidents. Adding to some four instances of stone-throwing is this latest one in which the severed legs of a certain animal have been found in front of a house at Ajjibettu near Bantwal Cross Road. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 12th.

15.2.2014. Brahmavar.

The VHP and Bajrang Dal gave a call to observe a bundh in protest against the arrest of Dinesh Mendon who is the Gorakshak Dal Pramukh for Udupi district. He had been arrested as per a complaint lodged by Mohammed Yasir (See:

10.1.2014. Manipal). Since the response to the bundh call was quite poor, the activists tried to do it by force. In the event several shops and a police jeep got damaged. By then a number of Congress activists had turned up which led to a tense situation. The police swung into action and conducted a lathi-charge to disperse the crowds. The police have registered cases against some 20 persons including Suprasad Shetty (VHP district president), Vilas Nayak (a BJP leader), Sunil KR (Bajrang Dal convenor). - *"Vartha Bharati"*, 16th.

20.2.2014. Mangalore.

Allegedly green flags were put up on the same electric poles on which saffron flags were already flying, near the Shivanagar Circle at Moodushedde on the outskirts of the city. One group forcibly removed the green flags this morning. This was challenged by a second group belonging to a different community. Police rushed to the scene of fight and brought the situation under control. Both groups have lodged complaints against each other at the Kavour police station. - *"Vartha Bharati"*, 21st.

23.2.2014. Kundapur.

Hanif alias Anil and his wife Nasim, residents of Holy Cross near Trasi were going from Gangolli towards Trasi on their motorcycle. The couple fell down when a truck that was reversing hit the bike. While Hanif was taking the truck driver to task around 25 activists of Hindu Jagran Vedike came there and assaulted him and his wife. The activists consisting of Siddu, Raghu Kuthadi and others were on a bike rally from Trasi to Gangolli as part of Satya Narayan Pooja and other religious functions being held at Gangolli. Hanif has lodged a complaint with the Gangolli police. In his complaint he has alleged that the HJV boys who attacked them were angry with him for having got converted to Islam when he married Nasim. The police have deployed additional forces in order to prevent a worsening of the situation. - *"Karavali Ale"*, 24th.

24.2.2014. Udupi.

Humair alias Girish (28) who changed his religion to Islam around 7-8 years back was the target of attack by a group of twelve men. According to Humair, he was going on his bike from Nejaru to Nidamballi at night. Jayant who was standing near the mosque asked him for a lift. After they reached Kela Nejaru, Jayant suddenly made the bike to come to a stop and took away the keys from Humair. Within minutes a group of twelve persons consisting of Amit Santhekatte, Appu Tailor, Sujit, Rajesh, Rakesh, Sharat, Satish, Navin, Umesh, Raghu, Udaya and others came there and assaulted Humair with punch and bat and grievously injured him. Humair who is at a private hospital in Udupi said that the attackers also abused him and threatened to kill him if he did not reconvert to Hinduism. Later they called five girls from Nejar and forced them to lodge a complaint of sexual harassment against Humair. - *"Vartha Bharati"*, 27th.

26.2.2014. Sullia.

Kabir, an employee at an arecanut shop in Sullia was on his way back after having visited Mangalore in connection with his work. When the bus he was travelling in reached Jalsur, men in a Bolero vehicle forced the bus to a stop. They then abducted Kabir, took him to nearby jungle and assaulted him with steel rods and wooden sticks and ran away. This is what Kabir told the paper from his hospital bed at Puttur. He has recognised his attackers as Guruprasad, Mani, Chidananda and Nitish. All are said to be members of Bajrang Dal. Kabir is a member of an organisation that was active during the agitation on the controversial Tippu Circle at Navur. - *"Karavali Ale", 28th*.

2.3.2014. Mangalore.

An incident of stone-throwing has been reported from Montepadavu in Naringana village, Konaje. Some young men were making preparations at the Vira Maruti Bhajana Mandir on March 1 for a function scheduled for March 2. They had slept on the premises of the Mandir. At around 3:30 am they were awakened by the sound of shattering glass. When they got up they found that a window glass had been damaged. They reportedly saw a motorcycle with two men speed away. A complaint to this effect has been lodged at the Konaje police station. - *"Vartha Bharati", 3rd*.

8.3.2014. Bantwal.

The Congress party had organised a 'harmony meet' at Kalladka and it was attended by the district-in-charge minister Ramanath Rai and other local leaders. Chandraprasad Shetty spoke about how the Sangh Parivar organisations suddenly remember Hindus on the eve of elections and how Kalladka Prabhaker Bhat starts making hate speeches. Some hindutva youth from the audience objected to this and rushed towards the dais. They were confronted by another group of boys. A big fight ensued in which wooden clubs and lethal weapons were freely used. In the end the police burst tear gas shells and managed to disperse the crowd. Several vehicles were set on fire. Following these incidents all shops and establishments in Kalladka town downed their shutters. Bantwal station sub-inspector Sanjiv Kumar, three policemen and a young man have received injuries and they have been admitted to a hospital. - *"Vartha Bharati", 9th*.

9.3.2014. Bantwal.

A banner and a tube light on the road close to a dargah were damaged by miscreants in the early hours. A house belonging to Abdul Hamid staying near the Sri Rama Vidya Kendra was stoned. His car was taken outside the compound and turned turtle. Two motorcycle riders Dhanajay and Kishore were

set upon and beaten by a group. This happened at around 11:50 at night. Both have been admitted to a hospital. In all one four-wheeler and five two-wheelers were set on fire and damaged. A large contingent of police has been deployed at all the sensitive places in the entire Bantwal taluk. - "*Vartha Bharati*", 10th.

10.3.2014. Bantwal.

Miscreants set fire to two small shops located at Surikumeru near Mani at around 1 am. The shops belonged to Abdul Aziz and Hanif. The Vittal police have registered a complaint of arson. - "*Vartha Bharati*", 11th.

16.3.2014. Mangalore.

Abu Bakr of Montepadavu suddenly woke up to the sound of shattering glass at around 2 am. When he came out of his house he noticed that the window glasses of the nearby Al Madrasattul Badriya mosque were damaged due to stone-throwing. The Konaje police were informed. A team of policemen arrived at the site and registered a complaint. - "*Vartha Bharati*", 17th.

21.3.2014. Mangalore.

Rajesh Poojary (35), an autorickshaw driver at Benjanapadavu Kalpane was brutally hacked and murdered in the early morning. Rajesh happened to be the prime accused in the Iqbal murder case. Iqbal was said to be a member of Karnataka Forum for Dignity (KFD, which is today merged with the Popular Front of India or PFI). Iqbal was killed by a hindutva outfit of which Rajesh was an active member in those days. Afterwards Rajesh had reportedly dissociated himself from the outfit. The police are investigating. - "*Karavali Ale*", 22nd.

29.3.2014. Mulky.

There was a *yakshagana* programme at Kerekadu situated at Bellayari in Padupanambur village. In this connection an *Om* symbol (*rangoli*) was drawn in front of Vaman Acharya's house using colored powder. It was later found to have been defaced. Activists of Hindu Jagran Vedike blamed it on four dalit boys Suresh, Santhosh, Sitaram and Ramakrishna. They created a rumpus and assaulted the dalit youth. Later Suresh lodged a complaint with the police stating that Dinesh, Sandip Acharya, Rajesh and others attacked them on 29th as well as on 30th. - "*Karavali Ale*", 31st.

30.3.2014. Mangalore.

A mob of around 30 suspected Hindu Jagarana Vedike activists allegedly sexually assaulted a woman member of Mangalore City Corporation when she was canvassing for the Congress party on Sunday [30.3.2014].

The Hindu Jagarana Vedike has denied that its members molested the woman.

The attack, which reportedly occurred in full public view and was purportedly also captured on mobile phones by the attackers, came to light late on Tuesday after the Congress corporator (name withheld) addressed a press conference.

She said the Hindutva activists first surrounded her and then made a 16-year-old-member of their gang assault her at Kodikere near Mangalore around 4pm.

In the video, the boy can be seen grabbing the victim and attempting to strip her even as his comrades laugh and shout pro-Hindutva slogans.

As he attacks her, the teenager is heard saying, "Don't you find Hindu men attractive? Why do you like only Muslim men?"

The corporator is a Hindu. The slur was purportedly used in reference to her political proximity to some Muslim leaders of her party.

Videos of the attack have since been shared on WhatsApp, an instant messaging service for mobile phones.

The corporator said the attackers also threatened her that once Narendra Modi became the prime minister all people like her would be taught a lesson.

Modi is the Bharatiya Janata Party's prime ministerial candidate.

Asked about the attack, Satyajit Surathkal, south India convenor of the Hindu Jagarana Vedike (based in Mangalore) said, "Our boys were just talking to her. She suddenly started getting physically aggressive and some of our boys retaliated mildly. Nobody molested her."

He added, "We don't treat Hindu women like that. I have not seen the video everybody is talking about. I'm sure it is a fake."

Police inaction

The police registered an FIR in connection with the attack after Tuesday's press conference. The corporator claimed the police had reached the spot on Sunday soon after the attack, but made no effort to chase away or arrest the people who molested her.

"The police merely prevented them from causing further damage."

Mangalore police commissioner R Hitendra confirmed that many of the suspects had several other cases against them including murder and extortion.

Hitendra said, "We did not initially register a case because we did not receive a complaint. We have now provided her with an armed guard."

He failed to explain why the police did not register a complaint on their own despite officials reaching the spot soon after the assault, when the attackers were allegedly still around.

The police are yet to arrest any of the suspects.

The corporator claimed senior police officials had advised her to stay away from the area for her own safety.

Mangalore has seen similar vigilante attacks in the past.

Suspected Sri Rama Sene activists had attacked girls in a pub in January 2009. In July 2012, suspected Hindu Jagarana Vedike activists had assaulted 13 students including six girls in a show of moral policing at a house in Mangalore. This is often referred to as the homestay attack case.

Read: 8 Hindu right-wing men held for Mangalore attack

The attack on the corporator, however, is the first known instance of a politician being targeted by the vigilantes.

'Act or I will quit'

"They dared to attack me even though our government is in power. If no action is taken I will resign from my post," the corporator said at the press conference she addressed with local Congress MLA Moideen Bawa.

Bawa appealed for "justice". Soon after he made that appeal, people targeted him on the social media, seeking to know who he wants justice from when the Congress is in power in Karnataka.

Seven of the eight MLAs in Mangalore are from the Congress and three of them are cabinet ministers.

The incident has triggered resentment among a section of Congress workers in the district.

Vidya Dinker of the Forum Against Atrocities on Women said, "If the Congress cannot protect its own people despite being in power, what about ordinary women? There has been a huge increase in attacks on women by such groups after the Congress came to power."

Incidentally, this forum was formed in the aftermath of the homestay attack.

Not the first time

The corporator said her attackers had been harassing her ever since she started campaigning for the corporation elections. The harassment continued when Bawa was nominated for the 2013 assembly elections. She claimed six months ago, the Hindutva activists had waylaid her car when her five-year-old daughter was with her.

“They don’t want any party but the BJP to enter their area. They also object when we take non-Hindus for campaigning,” she said.

[Just goes to show that the "state" is a multi-layered apparatus, with the political leadership at the top but not always in command - in particular when the layers are not in alignment.] - *Hindustan Times*, April 2.

The Kodikere gang is reportedly responsible for many of the unlawful activities in the area such as pilfering of petrol, diesel and tar from tankers, kerosene-mixing and land dealings. All this is going on under the hindutva label and with political patronage. One of the first victims of this gang was Harish Bhandary (26) and he was murdered on the night of April 14, 2009. The police had arrested Manoj, Lokesh, Vishwa, Dharma, Ravi and Umesh in this connection. Ultimately the case was dismissed by the court for lack of evidence. The other victims are Manikanta (in January 2012), Hemant Poojary (the next day), Shivaraj (end of 2012) and Prakash (in February 2014). All these youth had in some way or the other seen to be close to HJV or going around with some of its activists. – *Karavali Ale*, 10th, 11th & 12th.

8.4.2014. Bantwal.

Kalladka witnessed stone-throwing and assaults after an autorickshaw driver was beaten up around 9 p.m. Eye-witnesses reported seeing two groups throwing stones and soda bottles at each other.

According to the Bantwal Town Police, around 9 p.m., a person from the minority community was allegedly beaten up by three persons from a Hindu rightwing group near Sri Rama High School, Kalladka. Another person nearby was injured when the group threw bottles and stones at him.

Security forces, who were deployed on election duty, were deputed at the scene, and the situation was brought under control within an hour, said the police. In all, two persons were reported injured. No arrests have been made so far. – *The Hindu*, 11th.

10.4.2014. Bantwal.

Khalil was walking down the road in Kalladka at around 8 pm. He is said to have stared at Amit wearing a saffron shawl. Amit and his colleagues objected to this

and a verbal duel ensued. Pretty soon two opposing groups started fighting with each other with soda bottles and stones. Two vehicles were also reportedly damaged. Immediately all shops downed their shutters. In the end the KSRP personnel did a lathi-charge and dispersed the groups. At least seven persons were injured in the clashes and they have been admitted to a hospital.

The next day i.e., on April 11 two young men were attacked on the High School road while they were on their way to the mosque for the noon prayers. Once again there was an inter-community group clash in Kalladka town. The police intervened and brought the situation under control. All shops and establishments closed down. Meanwhile there are allegations that the police are hesitant to arrest the culprits and as a result the entire town is suffering due to repeated violent clashes. Following this the police have taken Amit Poojary, Pushparaj, Rajesh, Harris and Siddiq into custody. Though PFI leader Zakaria and hindutva activist Ramesh too were arrested, the police released them later saying they were not involved in the incidents. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 11th & 12th.

20.4.2014. Kundapur.

A group of Hindu youth threw stones at Moidin's vehicle in the evening. Moidin managed to speed away and later reported the matter to the police station. He has been admitted to a hospital at Kundapur. Around 9:20 pm the same night some unknown persons threw a soda bottle at the house of S.K. Hamid in Halavalli and broke the window glass. Inspector P.M. Divaker and sub-inspector Prasad visited the scene of the crime and noted the damages. Two contingents of DAR and one contingent of KSRP have been deployed as a matter of precaution. It may be recalled that on the 18th Moidin (38) had lodged a complaint at the Kundapur police station that while he was walking from Gulvadi to his home at Kodi, Manjunath Poojary and five other unknown persons had abused him, tried to attack him and threatened to kill him. The police had immediately arrested the culprits. The latter too had lodged a complaint saying that they were attacked by Bashir, Mohammed and others. – *Karavali Ale*, 21st.

22.4.2014. Mangalore.

Two activists of Bajrang Dal attacked Suresh Bhat Bakrabail, district president of Karnataka Komu Souharda Vedike (Karnataka Communal Harmony Forum) at the Woodlands Hotel. Mr Bhat had just finished a press conference on the subject of ANF personnel shooting down a youth at Sringeri. The men splashed cowdung on Bhat's face and tried to strangle him before running away. Chetan, one of the attackers was caught by the public inside the hotel premises while the other managed to escape. The police recovered the motorcycle used by the miscreants. The second person, Tilak was apprehended late evening. The police also arrested a third person Pradeep Pumpwell. Pradeep is a member of the 'Go Rakshak Dal', a unit of Bajrang Dal. Bajrang Dal has claimed responsibility for the attack and said that KKS's allegation about Bajrang Dal's involvement in the

Sringeri incident had prompted it to carry out the attack. The Bunder police have registered cases under IPC 323, 355, 307, 34. – *Karavali Ale, 23rd*.

5.5.2014. Vittal.

Mohammed Asif was going on his bike from Kabaka (Puttur) towards Vittla. At Baggumule he wanted to overtake a Maruti Omni but the driver Venkatramana Gowda refused. An argument ensued that later resulted in fisticuffs. Umer who came to the spot was also beaten up. Another person, Rajesh is said to have received injuries to his head. Venkatramana Gowda and Rajesh have got themselves admitted to the government hospital at Vittal while Asif and Umer have got themselves admitted to a private hospital at Puttur. – *Vartha Bharathi, 6th*.

16.5.2014. Mangalore.

Following the announcement of election results some youth of Suralpadi held a victory procession at around 11:30 a.m., despite the district administration's order banning such rallies. They gathered in front of the Malharul Awakif mosque, shouted slogans and later threw stones at it. One of the youth climbed a flag post located close to the compound wall and tried to bring down the green flag. But when the miscreants observed the locals rushing towards them all of them ran away. It may be recalled that this is the same mosque where the severed head of a pig was found just days before the assembly elections last year. – *Vartha Bharathi, 17th*.

16.5.2014. Bantwal.

BJP activists celebrated the victory of their party by bursting fire-crackers and holding rallies at Urimajalu, Kambalabettu, Shantinagar and various other locations. The processionists of Kambalabettu stopped their vehicles in front of the Muhiyuddin Juma Masjid, trespassed inside the compound, burst fire-crackers and created a ruckus. The members of the governing council of the mosque have alleged that the miscreants broke window glasses and burst fire-crackers on the pulpit. There were no devotees inside the Muhiyuddin mosque at the time of the attack since it was the turn of the nearby Ibrahim Khalil Juma Masjid to hold this Friday's prayer meeting. The miscreants managed to escape before the devotees could rush to the place. The Vittal police managed to prevent any untoward incidents. A complaint has been lodged against Ramdas Kambalabettu, Jagdish Kambalabettu, Nandkumar Kambalabettu, Sunit Karyadi, Ganesh Urimajalu, Gangadhar Urimajalu, Harish Urimajalu, Vasanth Urimajalu, Karunakar Naythottu and others at the Vittal police station. – *Vartha Bharathi, 17th*.

17.5.2014. Udupi.

In another incident connected to victory procession, a chicken stall owner was beaten up at Hoode village in Malpe. During yesterday's procession to celebrate the victory of their candidate Shobha Karandlaje, BJP activists had burst crackers in front of a house belonging to Padmanabha Bangera and also the Hoode mosque. It is learnt that one person Asif had suffered injuries when they threw stones. This evening nearly 150 BJP activists attacked Mohammed Ais, owner of a chicken stall at Hoode. Reportedly the incident took place in the presence of police. Mohammed Ais is undergoing treatment for his injuries at the government hospital at Ajjarakadu in Udupi. According to him a group of seven BJP men had come to his shop and picked a quarrel regarding his presence during yesterday's incidents. They assaulted his 10 year-old daughter and tried to stab him with a broken glass. He says he has suffered a loss of nearly Rs 50,000 because the miscreants added glass pieces to the chicken preparation meant for a private function. – *Karavali Ale, 18th*.

A chicken stall owner was beaten up by a gang at Hoode village coming under Malpe police station here on Saturday (May 17). The police have arrested one person in connection with the assault.

The victim has been identified as Mohammed Ais, who has been running a chicken stall in Hoode, for the last 18 years. However, the victim, who has been admitted to the District Government Hospital here, and the police have different versions of the assault.

M.B. Boralingaiah, Superintendent of Police, said that a group of three to four persons came to Mr. Ais's shop near the fish market and began speaking about the results of the Lok Sabha elections with him. This led to an altercation between the two.

Finally the members of the group began beating Mr. Ais. The police personnel, who were stationed on duty at a nearby ground, came to Mr. Ais's rescue and nabbed one of the assaulters, while the rest escaped. A case had been registered at the Malpe police station and investigations were on.

But Mr. Ais told *The Hindu* that he was cooking food, for nearly 400 students at a nearby school, when seven persons came on four motorcycles asked his daughter Ayesha for his whereabouts at around 4.30 p.m. They later pushed her and came to him and asked if he was present when a victory procession [of the Bharatiya Janata Party] was taken out on May 16, to which he replied in the negative. They then beat him up.

He caught one of the assaulters named Ganesh and handed him over to the police, while the rest escaped on their motorcycles. Then he got admitted to the hospital here, he said. – *The Hindu, 18th*.

18.5.2014. Mangalore.

During the course of a cricket match between the Kodikere and Mainduguri teams at Premnagar today, a dispute arose when one of the spectators allegedly stopped a boundary hit by Ismail. Sadik and others from Ismail's team fought with Prajwal and Somanath of the Kodikere team. According to an eye-witness, "Later at around 1:30 p.m., some 30 members of Kodikere gang went in a Scorpio, a Ritz and about a dozen bikes to Mainduguri. They were carrying clubs and swords. They attacked the local people who were attending to those injured in the earlier skirmish. Afterwards they targeted a shop, two bikes and two private vehicles. The driver of one of the vehicles, Ashraf too was hit with a stone". When Sadik, a bystander ran towards his home the gang followed him. "They tried to break open the door but having failed in that attempt they damaged the cooking vessels and utensils in the compound. There were several guests at home including women and children. All of them were so scared that they went away without having lunch" said Sadik's father Idinabba. Both teams have lodged complaints against each other. – *Karavali Ale*, 19th.

Two members of the Kodikere gang, Nikhil and Manish are juveniles. Nikhil was involved in an incident of moral policing at Suratkal a few months ago. Manish has a dreadful record. He is the main accused in the murder of Shakeel that took place in January this year at Kulai. A few days after this incident he had brutally murdered Prakash near NITK Suratkal. He is also the main accused in the recent assault on the local corporator Pratibha Kulai. – *Karavali Ale*, 20th.

Six persons were injured and five vehicles were damaged in a clash after a cricket match in Maradaguni near Surathkal on Sunday (May 18).

The police said the match was between the Maradaguni and the Shediguri teams in a ground in Prem Nagar near Maradaguni. Members of the team from Kodigere, who had won a previous match, were standing near the boundary.

The Maradaguni team members raised objection when the Kodigere team members stopped the ball well before the ball crossed the boundary line. Following a heated exchange, a few among the Maradaguni members reportedly hit Prajwal (18) and Somanath Shediguri (30), the supporters of Kodigere team. After this attack, the Kodigere team members came with a group of people and allegedly assaulted Ashraf (20), Sadiq (28), Ismail (20) and Riyaz (30). They damaged two motorcycles, a mini goods van, a van and a three-wheeler luggage vehicle, the police said.

Two injured persons have been admitted to a hospital in Surathakal, while three other victims were at a hospital in Falnir. Riyaz has not been admitted to the hospital.

Prajwal, a Karnataka Polytechnic student, said he was among the many from Kodigere watching the match. "The Maradaguni players were unhappy with

stoppage of the ball within the boundary line. They hit me and also Somnath, who tried to intervene, with stumps.” Both have bursaries all over the body.

Ismail, a Maradaguni resident, said a big group of Kodigere residents came in different vehicles when he was sitting near his house in Maradaguni. They hit Ashraf and Sadiq. Sadiq was reportedly chased and was hit by a sharp weapon on his fingers. The group then damaged vehicles parked, Mr. Ismail said.

Surathkal police have registered complaints filed by the victims of the attack. Police Commissioner R. Hithendra visited the spot and made arrangements to increase the police presence in the area. – *The Hindu*, 19th.

21.6.2014. Mangalore.

Two friends, Shalok and Hyder were waiting for a bus in the evening at the Ullal junction. Shalok happens to be an employee of the local Kotepura fish oil mill. Suddenly a group of five drunks which happened to come that way picked a quarrel with them for no reason at all. The duo was beaten with whatever could be found at the place. News of the incident spread like wild fire. Soon people started gathering at the spot. Two opposing groups indulged in violence. The injured duo has been admitted to a hospital at Thokkottu. They have lodged a complaint naming Sharan, Srajan, Harish Vikkina and Dikshit as their attackers. The Ullal police acted swiftly and managed to nab Srajan from Mogaveerpatna in Ullal. Investigations are on. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 22nd.

24.6.2014. Mangalore.

Farooq, a member of the Ullal Darga Committee and the Darga Charitable Trust and Ashraf were attacked by a group of persons while they were going on a motorcycle in the early hours today. The unknown miscreants slashed at the bike riders with a sword and escaped when Farooq raised an alarm. Farooq's hand has been injured. The other members of Darga Committee rushed to the spot and arranged to admit Farooq to a local hospital. The police are learnt to have taken several persons into custody and are investigating the matter. Meanwhile police forces have been deployed at several places in Ullal to prevent any untoward incidents.

Rahul (20) of Mogavirpatna Ratan (20) of Neermarga have been arrested in this connection and produced before the court on June 26. Both have been remanded to judicial custody. According to the police the miscreants' target was Ashraf and not Farooq. It is believed that Ashraf was part of the group that had attacked Srajan and Prashant who are suspects in another case of attack (see: **21.6.2014. Mangalore**). – *Vartha Bharathi*, 25th & 27th.

9.7.2014. Bantwal.

A welcoming program for junior students was going on at the Convent Junior College at Modankapu. During the event a minor scuffle broke out between two students over the issue of shifting a chair. It soon developed into a full-blown fight between two groups belonging to different religious communities. Police were informed and they rushed to the college and brought the situation under control. – *Karavali Ale, 11th.*

26.7.2014. Gangolli.

As per a complaint registered at the Gangolli police station, as Muslims were coming out after prayers at the Rahamania Mohalla, two persons riding a motorcycle came and abused the Muslim community. The duo of Raghunath Karvi and Prashant later went to the Jamia Mohalla and repeated the act. The incident resulted in a build-up of tensions. But the timely arrival of the police prevented a major conflagration. – *Karavali Ale, 27th.*

26.7.2014. Mangalore.

The hooliganism of ABVP is increasing day by day. In the latest incident, student members of ABVP have abused and threatened the principal of University College here. The ABVP wanted to celebrate their victory in the college elections and had arranged for two buses. Since the buses were brought inside the campus without the prior permission of the principal, the latter objected which angered the ABVP members. The principal has registered a police complaint in this regard. – *Karavali Ale, 27th.*

02.8.2014. Mangalore.

Some local persons of Marakada have been organising public *Ganesha* function every year for the past 25 years on a piece of government land. But this year some land mafia, apparently in a bid to grab the 4.5 acre piece, put up an unauthorised structure and called it *Ganesha Katte*. When the tahsildar came to know of the illegal construction he along with the Corporation officers demolished the same and took possession of the land. Thwarted in the land-grab bid the mafia sought to put the blame on the neighboring Kunjathbail Corporator Mohammed who happens to be a Muslim. A rumour was spread saying Mohammed was responsible for the demolition. This caused some tension in the area. But ultimately the local public realized the facts behind the controversy and refused to be drawn into the conflict. – *Karavali Ale, 5th.*

04.8.2014. Kundapur.

Rahim, owner of an interlock laying company had a fight with Murali and Manjunath (both in the painting profession) on the Halavalli beach at Kodi here. Reportedly they had an old enmity dating back to the previous communal incident in the area. It is said that Rahim came across the duo while returning in

his vehicle after dropping his workers. Rahim reportedly assaulted and Manjunath. Local persons managed to separate the two warring groups. Rahim has been admitted to a hospital and he has lodged a complaint against the duo at the Kundapur police station. – *Karavali Ale*, 5th.

19.8.2014. Mangalore.

Shihabuddin, Mohammed Nihan, Nazimuddin and Sriketan are studying in 6th standard at the government Higher Primary School at Nala of Belthangady taluk. It is reported that while the children were playing in the evening there was a small dispute and Sriketan was pinched by the other three. Sriketan complained about this to the teacher Suryanarayan. The latter called the three boys to his chamber and beat them with a club. Sriketan's father was called to the school and he too is reported to have thrashed the boys. All the three boys have been admitted to a hospital and their parents have lodged a police complaint against the teacher. It is alleged that the teacher has a communal mindset since he makes children of a particular community to do all the work and sometimes during meals sees to it that they get the food in the end. – *Karavali Ale*, 21st.

24.8.2014. Mangalore.

Tukaram (38) who works as a supervisor in a private company was on his way to attend an early morning yoga class at around 4:30. Suddenly a motorcycle appeared with three persons on it. They slashed at Tukaram with swords and escaped. Tukaram suffered grievous injuries to his right eye and both his hands. He also had cuts all over his body. It is suspected that this attack is connected with the attack on cattle transporters that occurred on 23 August. – *Karavali Ale*, October 14th.

26.8.2014. Mangalore.

The news of noted writer U.R.Ananthamurthys's demise on 22nd had turned out to be cause for celebration for members of Bajrang Dal here. A group of them had burst firecrackers in a public place at Mallikatta. The police who had registered a *suo motu* case have now managed to apprehend five persons involved in the incident. While K.B.Manoj (34), Vijesh (22) and Sharat (20) have been arrested the other two Anil and Umesh are already under custody in connection with the assault on a cattle transporter on 23rd (see: **23.8.2014. Mangalore**). According to the police Manoj is also an accused in the murder of a Muslim cleric at Goonadka of Sullia taluk in 2006. – *Prajavani*, 27th.

27.8.2014. Puttur.

Representatives of the local unit of Congress party staged a demonstration against a journalist B.T.Ranjan of *Udayavani* newspaper for his biased and false reporting. The protesters alleged that Ranjan was inflaming communal passions

through his writings and was directly responsible for causing communal disturbances between Hindus and Muslims of Puttur. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 29th.

14.9.2014. Puttur.

As a result of a fight between two rival groups at Purushara Katte in Narimogaru village four persons were injured and were admitted to hospital for treatment. The names of the injured are Chandranath, Avinash, Yeshwant and Salimuddin. Both groups belong to different religious communities. The police have registered a case and investigations are on. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 15th.

19.9.2014. Mangalore.

Nine persons associated with Bajrang Dal have been arrested in connection with the attack on two students from Mangalore Institute of Fire and Safety Engineering near Pumpwell Junction on 18th.

Mangalore Police Commissioner R. Hithendra told reporters that a student from the institute had taken help of these nine persons to assault Kalandar and his classmate Azmal. The police are searching for the student, who was at large, Mr. Hithendra said.

The Mangalore Rural police gave the names of the arrested persons as Nitesh, Ganesh, Sanjay, Chetan, Yatish, Amit, Akesh, Ranjan and Satish. Mr. Hithendra said Bhujanga Kulal, the District Convenor of Bajrang Dal, was also questioned. “We are investigating into his alleged involvement,” he said.

“The accused have been arrested. Bhujanga Kulal is innocent and has been released,” said Bajrang Dal divisional convenor Sharan Pumpwell. – *The Hindu*, 20th.

21.9.2014. Mangalore.

Two groups belonging to different religious communities clashed with each other at Debbeli in Harekala village on the outskirts of the city. In the end four men from each group were admitted to hospital for treatment. Reportedly members of one group had just attended a *shakha* and were standing in the maidan and discussing when according to them some 40 armed men attacked them. The other group alleged that when they were on their way to attend the inauguration of a new mosque they were suddenly set upon by some 15 armed men. The Konaje police have taken a few men into custody and are investigating. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 22nd.

1.10.2014. Bantwal.

Miscreants threw stones and damaged window glasses of Hamid's house located at Kerebali near Siddakatte. Also a mat has been set on fire. The incident comes in the wake of a previous incident where there was an attempt to molest a girl. Siraj who had been arrested in this connection was later released on interim bail. But Sangh Parivar activists had staged a protest at Siddakatte junction, following which Siraj was re-arrested and sent to judicial custody. – *Karavali Ale*, 3rd.

4.10.2014. Mangalore.

People of Arbi in Ganjimath panchayat near Bajpe were agitated for the past several days on account of chicken stall waste being thrown into a storm water drain which ultimately landed up at the local *Nagabana* (A small wood around a serpent shrine). Today when someone saw Zubair, owner of a chicken stall throwing the waste a large number of persons gathered at the place and subjected Zubair to severe beating. A boy who had accompanied Zubair ran away and spread the information among his friends. A second group went and challenged the first group which led to a tense situation. Police arrived and resorted to a lathi-charge to restore normalcy. Allegedly at first the police did not take any action despite Zubair having pointed out his attackers among the first group. However the police later booked a case against 14 persons. It is alleged that when the first group learnt of this they fabricated a story about the second group trespassing into a house and assaulting women. Dejamma, Sadashiva, Nitish and others were made to seek admission in Wenlock hospital, it is said. – *Karavali Ale*, 7th.

10.10.2014. Bantwal.

Early in the morning today, Shanker, a flower-seller at Bantwal was attacked by three hooded persons who came on a motorcycle. The miscreants escaped after hitting Shanker with wooden clubs. The police have registered a case and are on the look-out for the assailants. It is suspected that the attack could be in retaliation for Shanker's involvement in moral policing and other communal incidents. Shanker (30), son of Appayya of Melkar is the owner of an unauthorised flower stall located close to the highway at the main traffic circle. He is said to be an accused in a number of communal violence cases and is facing an attempt to murder case in connection with the incidents of violence during the last general elections. On September 25 he had assaulted Ibrahim, an autorickshaw driver after engaging him for a drop to his house. He was part of a group that had assaulted a bus driver from the Christian community on September 24 for having talked to a girl in Melkar. – *Karavali Ale*, 11th.

16.10.2014. Bengaluru.

The state cabinet during its meeting today rejected the report of the Justice Somashekar Commission's report on the 2008 church attacks. It has cited the discrepancy between the interim and the final report as the reason for rejection. It

has been decided to hand over the case to the home department for an impartial probe. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 17th.

16.10.2014. Moodabidre.

Mohammed Sharif of Hidayatnagar in Todar has filed a complaint in the Moodabidre police station alleging that four RSS men in uniform were carrying swords during the RSS march past held in town on 15 October. The RSS had organised a workshop at the Jain Pre-University College here from October 8 to 15. The police have given a standard reply that they need to consult legal experts in the matter. It may be recalled that several such complaints have been registered in the recent past. According to Mangalore City Police Commissioner in all those cases trials are in progress in various courts. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 17th.

17.10.2014. Vittal.

Mohammed Irshad and Ibrahim Khalil of Mandur in Kanyana village accused Chandrasa and Dinesh of staring at them while they were going on a motorcycle. This led to a free-for-all near the Kanyana College. However the arrival of Vittal police brought the situation under control. Three persons have been admitted to the hospital. Both groups have registered complaints against each other. Additional police forces have been deployed near the College. – *Karavali Ale*, 18th.

20.10.2014. Mangalore.

Activists of Bajrang Dal held demonstrations and protest meets for three days against the sub-inspector of Kavour police station for having assaulted Charan who is one of their members. Charan is a rowdy-sheeter and has several criminal cases against him. Reportedly he had refused to report at the police station upon being asked by the sub-inspector and the latter assaulted him after taking him to the station. Charan's wife had lodged a complaint about the incident of assault. The Commissioner of Police has now ordered for suspension of the Kavour sub-inspector Umesh after an internal inquiry. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 21st & 24th.

3.11.2014. Kadaba.

Kamalaksha, owner of a Tempo Trax (Toofan) was returning home at night and is said to have hit a motorcycle but drove without stopping. A group of men is alleged to have stopped the Toofan at Perladakere and assaulted Kamalaksha and his brother Mohan. People started gathering and the situation turned tense. Arrival of the police helped to bring the situation to normal. Kamalaksha and Mohan have been admitted to a private hospital at Puttur. Meanwhile Nasir alleged that he was beaten by Mohan and others and has been admitted to a hospital. Next morning, i.e. on Nov 4 various leaders of Kadaba Madura Tourist Vehicle Owners' and Drivers' Association lodged a complaint asking the police to

arrest those responsible for the communal incident. They also sought suitable security cover to all drivers. A bundh call given by the association got a good response from vehicle owners. In the evening tension erupted once again when a *jatha* led by SDPI on “Ache Din Ki Sachchai” arrived in town in the evening and started to play recorded speeches against Narendra Modi. Raising serious objections to this activists of hindutva organisations rushed towards the stage. A verbal duel ensued. But timely intervention by the police eased the tensions. Later the police allowed the SDPI to hold the meeting after asking them not to make provocative statements. – *Vartha Bharathi*, 6th .

3.11.2014. Mangaluru.

A Volvo bus was damaged when a few persons belonging to the Hindu Jagaran Vedike were staging a protest in Adyarkatte near Adyar Kannur and at Surathkal junction against the police invoking Goonda Act (The Karnataka Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Drug offenders, Gamblers, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders and Slum Grabbers Act, 1985) against Manoj, a Vedike activist. According to a complaint filed at the Mangalore Rural Police Station, the bus was heading to Kundapur with a few passengers. The miscreants made the passengers get down and threw stones that damaged the windshield and some side glass windows. A few tyres that they had brought were also burnt around 5 a.m. The Vedike activists and the former Minister Krishna Palemar objected to the action of the police. – *The Hindu*, 4th .

5.11.2014. Mangaluru.

For the second time in eighteen months, an act of mischief has been reported from Kodikere in Thokur village. Unidentified miscreants pelted stones at the Mohiuddin Juma mosque located in the SEZ colony in Kodikere between 10-30 pm and 11 pm tonight. Glass-panes have been damaged in the incident. In the earlier incident in June 2013, glass-panes on windows had similarly been damaged. Mosque president Hussain has stated in his complaint to the police that if the culprits had been strictly dealt with that time, the incident would not have recurred. The police are investigating the case. – *mangalorean.com*, 7th .

9.11.2014. Kundapur.

A kabaddi match was going on between two teams under the auspices of Sri Ram Bhajana Mandir at Kandlur. While Anugraha belonging to Hindu boys was one of the teams, the other belonging to Muslim boys was known as Kandlur Friends. Towards the end of the match, a clash broke out regarding scores and the winner following which members from both teams had a hand-to-hand fight. Lava, Kiran and Sachin of Anugraha team were injured and were hospitalised. A complaint has been registered at the Kundapur police station. – *Karavali Ale*, 10th .

9.11.2014. Mangaluru.

A series of incidents have been reported from Suratkal after the Goonda act was invoked against Manoj who is a member of the local Hindu Jagran Vedike. Last week a Tata 407 vehicle was allegedly set on fire at Kulai. Glasses of a school van were found damaged. Miscreants threw stones at the Thokur Juma mosque. The latest incident happened in the early morning today. A Bolero was allegedly set on fire at Kulai. – *Karavali Ale, 10th*.

27.11.2014. Gangolli.

Reportedly bottles were thrown at a group of youth by another group belonging to a different community at a place called Mel Gangolli. This led to a verbal duel between the groups. The arrival of police eased the tensions. But when a reporter Raghavendra Pai arrived at the spot on his motorcycle, he was assaulted by one group which also smashed his bike. He has lodged a complaint with the police. Both the groups have registered complaints against one another. – *Karavali Ale, 28th*.

Hanif who was admitted to a hospital following the clashes was arrested by police on November 28 as soon as he was discharged from the hospital. He has been remanded to judicial custody until December 12. – *Karavali Ale, 29th*.

29.11.2014. Gangolli.

Gangolli was tense after six shops were damaged in fire on November 29. According to the police, the fire began at 1.30 a.m. A paint shop and a garment shop were damaged badly, while the impact on four others was minimal. Fire tenders rushed to the spot and brought the fire under control.

Earlier, Gangolli had witnessed a clash between two groups of youths from different communities on November 27.

P.M. Diwakar, Kundapur Circle Inspector, told The Hindu that the cause for the fire was not yet known and that members of one community suspected those from another community to be behind the mishap.

P. Rajendra Prasad, Superintendent of Police, said that the shutters of the paint shop, where the fire was noticed, were locked from outside and had no ventilation. "It is only after an investigation by forensic experts that the exact cause can be ascertained," he said.

Forensic experts from Mangaluru reached Gangolli and examined the spot. Amrit Paul, IGP (Western Range) said that they were conducting tests. "The situation is absolutely peaceful," he said. – *The Hindu, 30th*.

The shop-owners had complained to the police that this was the handiwork of a group of persons and had named 13 of them. On December 3 the local Muslims had held a demonstration protesting inaction by the police. Later a member of Hindu Jagran Vedike, Vasudev Devadiga was arrested and was remanded to judicial custody. At night Sangh Parivar men held a protest in front of the station asking for release of the accused. On December 4 hundreds of hindutva activists with BJP leaders staged a protest march once again demanding release of Vasu and Siddu. On the way miscreants threw stones at some shops belonging to members of the other community. The protesters are learnt to have indulged in stone throwing. Later the crowd jumped the barricades and laid siege to the police station. The protest was withdrawn and a victory celebration held upon learning that both were granted bail by the court. – *Karavali Ale*, 5th.

5.12.2014. Mangaluru.

Tension prevailed at Ulaibettu near Vamanjoor on the outskirts of the city following a clash between two groups on the night of December 5. At least nine persons were injured.

The trouble began, according to police, when a group of people in a vehicle who were on their way to Datta Peetha at Bababudangiri Chikkamagaluru district, was blocked by another group, saying the road was being concreted and it could not be used.

After heated exchanges, the vehicle started moving but it was pelted with stones. In retaliation, stones were thrown on a few other vehicles and later on a place of worship around 10 p.m. on Friday, according to the police.

This led to a spate of attacks on people and damage to vehicles near Ulaibettu, leaving nine persons injured and damage to a few cars and two-wheelers. Additional forces were requisitioned to maintain peace and order in the area.

People of the area maintained that the groups that clashed were not from Ulaibettu.

The injured persons, who have been hospitalised, said the attack on them was “unprovoked”. Yashodhar (29), who was hit on the head, chest and legs, said he had been attacked twice without any provocation. His brother Jagadish, sister Soumya, and her neighbour Babita too were injured.

Mr. Jagadish alleged that a team of policemen, who were near the place of attack, did not act fast. “I begged with the police officer to save my brother, but they just turned away,” he charged.

Residents of Ulaibettu belonging to one community alleged police highhandedness while rounding up people after the incident.

They alleged that the police broke open the doors of most houses on a lane and all flats in an apartment complex, alleging that they were protecting the attackers. They rounded up 28 persons for questioning.

Police Commissioner R. Hitendra defended the police action, saying there was a complaint against people of a particular community and the police had to force open the doors as the residents did not cooperate.

The police have registered the complaint by the injured persons and have arrested 23 persons.

A separate case has been registered for the stoning of a place of worship. – *The Hindu*, 6th.

For a community in Ullaibettu, it isn't communal fault lines that are driving them to squat in front of their houses in fear. It is the police, who in their midnight 'vigil' on the village, are alleged to have forced themselves into 25 houses and taken the young men into questioning.

After group violence in the main road, residents said a posse of policemen descended on the town, around 20 km from Mangaluru, and began their "sweep" around 2 p.m. Most residents who talked to *The Hindu* said they were sleeping at the time when the police began knocking at their doors. By the end of the sweep, two lanes by the Ullaibettu junction bore a string of broken doors.

"We heard the doorbells. By the time we could get up and come at the door, around 20 policemen had knocked it down and began rounding up the young men," said Abdul Khader, a resident.

Jainabbu (60) was alone in her tiled-roof house when policemen broke through her door and accused her of sheltering men, she said in tears. Further up the lane, doors of all 12 houses in an apartment were broken – even one house where no one stayed. In a house where eight women stay, the residents accused the "abusive" police of entering at 3 a.m., pushing them aside, and threatening to arrest them. Police are accused of ransacked belongings and cupboards.

By sunrise, over 28 people from the village were taken from their houses for questioning. "When the ones supposed to be protecting us start to torment us, where do we go," said Ibrahim.

Reaction

City Police Commissioner R. Hitendra said the police had the right to enter the houses during "searches".

“When people do not cooperate with us by opening the door, we have the right to use force and enter...There is no need for a warrant in non-cognizable cases such as these,” he said.

On the accusation that the police did not wait for the doors to be open, Mr. Hitendra said, “This is just their version of events. They did not cooperate.” – *The Hindu*, 7th.

Pranav (20), a BBM student, dropped his friend at Perari and while returning, he passed by a bus that had been stoned near Ullaibettu around 10.30 p.m. on Friday and he added that he became the target of a group of people.

Nearly 24 injured persons have been admitted at two different hospitals following a disturbance in Ullaibettu on the bank of the Gurupura on Friday night. While 14 were injured following clashes, others were injured when the police reportedly pushed them aside while searching for the persons involved in the attack.

Residents of Perari said the attack on them was unprovoked. “They just started hitting vehicles going down to Permaki on the newly laid concrete road,” said Uday, an autorickshaw driver.

Yashodhar (29) said he was first hit while he was coming with his friend Praveen from Ullaibettu to Archebail on a motorcycle. The next was when he was returning on the same road with another friend Vishwanath (27).

“I was hit by a sharp object on the left hand,” said Vishwanath, whose fingers were heavily bandaged.

Manoj Kumar, who works in a car dealer firm, had injuries on the back and the right shoulder and added he had to pretend unconscious to avoid being further hit by the mob near Ullaibettu.

Hazara, a resident of Ullaibettu, said many people barged into their house in an inebriated state around 11 p.m. They hit her on her head while going out of the house after damaging articles. “They were just looking for my son, who had gone for work.” – *The Hindu*, 7th.

With a large police presence still blanketing the village, Ullaibettu remained peaceful on Sunday, two days after communal tension spurted into violence in the town.

Residents said though there was little to show friction in the village – around 20 km from the city – there was an uneasy calm due to the presence of the police. “People still remember the midnight raids they had conducted on the houses. No one is venturing far from their houses,” said a resident.

The Mangaluru Rural Police have booked three cases following a clash between two communities on Friday night when pilgrims headed to Babubudangiri in Chikkamagaluru district were attacked and a counter-attack took place on the place of worship. The clashes left around 25 people injured.

While 23 people from one community in Ulaibettu have been arrested following the first complaint, the police are yet to identify or arrest those accused in the two counter complaints filed on Saturday.

“A vehicle number has been given in the complaint, and we have set up bandobasts everywhere to see if the vehicle can be spotted,” said a police officer. The police have been scouring through Vamanjoor and the villages around Ulaibettu for those who may be connected to the violence.

Section 144

Mangaluru Police Commissioner R. Hithendra said prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CrPC were being clamped within a 1.5-km radius of Ulaibettu from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Essential services, religious places and schools will be exempted.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajarang Dal have called for a bandh on Monday around the Gurupura area. The organisations said shutters will be down in Vamanjoor, Kaikamba, Yekkar, Kuppepadavu, Yedapadavu, Kateel and Neermarga areas protesting the incident.

Numerous protestors will also take out a procession from Parari Junction (on National Highway 169 from Mangaluru to Solapur) towards Vishwanath Temple at Ulaibettu. The bandh call has been supported by the BJP district unit, Ram Sene and affiliated organisations.

The police have increased the security and called for additional platoons of the Karnataka State Reserve Police to ensure peace. – *The Hindu*, 8th.

While the road leading to Ulaibettu remained deserted, the protest called by the Sangh Parivar on Monday to condemn Friday’s group clash led to protesters resorting to stone-pelting. This led to the police lathi-charging protesters. In the melee, five policemen and a few protesters were injured.

The Bajrang Dal, Vishwa Hindu Parishad and other affiliated organisations had called for a bandh to protest the alleged attack on a group proceeding to Babubudangiri in Chikkamagaluru on Friday night that led to group clashes in Ulaibettu on the outskirts of Mangaluru. Police issued prohibitory orders on movement of people in groups in Ulaibettu and neighbouring Parari area from Monday morning.

A large number of protesters, led by Rajashekaranda Swami from the Vajradehi Math, came in a procession from Vamanjoor around 11 a.m. The police stopped them from entering the road leading to Ulaibettu. In protest, they began throwing stones at a hoarding of Mangaluru City North MLA Mohiuddin Bava. Some stones pelted a bus ferrying policemen, and some of them were injured. The police caned the protesters, who finally dispersed. Nearly 60 protesters were taken into custody.

The remaining protesters moved to Vamanjoor junction where they held a demonstration. The former MP Tejaswimi Gowda and former Minister B. Nagaraj Shetty participated in the meeting.

Shops and business establishments and educational institutions in Ulaibettu, Parari, Vamanjoor and Gurupura remained closed.

Personnel from the Karnataka State Reserve Police and District Armed Reserve were posted at different points in the area.

Police Commissioner R. Hithendra camped at Vamanjoor to oversee the situation. Buses did not ply between the city and Moodbidri through Vamanjoor.

Two stabbed

Mohammed Sharief (45), from Kunjatbail, was reportedly stabbed by two persons who had come to his chicken stall.

In his complaint to the police, Mr. Sharief said the attack was a result of the Ulaibettu clash on Friday night. A case has been registered with the Kavour police.

Scrap dealer Syed Wasim (40), was attacked near a lodge in Bunder on Sunday night. The Mangaluru North police said two men on a motorcycle waylaid him near the lodge and tried to snatch his mobile phone while the later resisted and raised an alarm. The miscreants stabbed Wasim and sped away.

Police Commissioner R. Hithendra said investigations so far into the incident in Bunder have not revealed any link with the group clashes in Ulaibettu. The jurisdictional Mangaluru North police are investigating. – *The Hindu, 9th*.

Deputy Commissioner A.B. Ibrahim on Tuesday said that the State government would reimburse medical bills of those injured in the clashes on Friday night in Ulaibettu and those who were injured in the disturbances that followed in the neighbouring areas on subsequent days. Mr. Ibrahim met them at three hospitals in the city.

Nine persons are undergoing treatment at the SCS Hospital in Balmatta here. One of the injured told Mr. Ibrahim that the injury he sustained would leave him incapacitated for the next few weeks. He expressed his anguish over the difficulty in earning livelihood.

Some injured persons complained against the local police for not responding on time to prevent escalation of the clashes on Friday night. There were complaints against elected representatives for their lack of concern towards the injured.

Mr. Ibrahim met three persons admitted to Highland Hospital, by one admitted to Tejaswini Hospital and two others admitted to A.J. Shetty Hospital.

The Deputy Commissioner told presspersons that the government would bear the entire medical expenses of the injured. Meanwhile, Police Commissioner R. Hithendra transferred the Inspector of Mangaluru Rural police station, who was accused of responding late to clashes in Ulaibettu on Friday. Assistant Commissioner of Police Subrahmanya will inquire into the alleged lapses of the inspector. – *The Hindu, 9th*.

The Mangalore Rural police arrested seven persons for their alleged involvement in throwing stones and injuring policemen at Perari junction near Ulaibettu on Monday.

The police gave their names as Rajesh, Divakar, Prashant, Charanraj, all from Moodshedde; Rakesh from Talapady; and Manoj from Panjimogaru. The police said they were allegedly involved in throwing stones after the Bajarang Dal, Vishwa Hindu Parishad and other activists took out a procession in protest against a group clash in Ulaibettu on December 5 night. Four policemen and a few protesters were injured.

The police said they have registered a case against Rajashekaranda Swami of Vajradehi Math, Jagadish Shenva of VHP and other activists who took out the protest march. They have been booked under Sections 353 (assault), 333 (voluntarily causing hurt), 427 (mischief), 143 (unlawful assembly) and 147 (rioting) of Indian Penal Code.

The Kavour police have arrested two persons for their alleged involvement in the assault of 45-year-old Mohammed Sharief in Kujathbail on Sunday night. The police gave the names of the accused as Ranjit (22) of Yekkur and Rajesh (27) of Kuthar. – *The Hindu, 10th*.

Tension prevailed in Katipalla Krishnapura following the assault on Taslim Arif (29), a resident of Katipalla, on Tuesday night.

The police said two motorcycle-borne men waylaid Taslim Arif and hit him with a sharp object on his right hand.

Taslim Arif was taken to a private hospital in Mukka.

On hearing about the incident, a large number of people gathered in the area to condemn the attack.

Police Commissioner R. Hithendra and other police officials rushed to the spot with additional force.

Mr. Hithendra said one person, who was caught after a chase by a police sub-inspector, was being questioned in connection with the incident.

The Suratkal police arrested Sandip (22) and Ranjit (26) in this connection on December 12. – *Karavali Ale*, 13th.

Other attacks

Yogish, 35, a newspaper vendor, was stabbed on his back by two motorcycle-borne men near a bar in Bunder on Monday night. He has been admitted to a private hospital in Kuntikana.

Vinay Kumar, 25, a native of Kadaba, was stabbed by a few men near a hotel in Suratkal police station limits on Monday night.

Kumar, who works in Kulai, was staying in a paying guest accommodation in Suratkal.

The police said Kumar was attacked when he was riding back from a coaching centre.

Shaqib (24) from Katipalla has now been arrested on charges of stabbing Vinay Kumar. Reportedly communal hatred was the reason behind the attack. – *Karavali Ale*, 17th.

Arrest over assault

The Bajpe police have arrested 32-year-old Yayaha for allegedly assaulting Ranjit (22) when he was returning home on his motorcycle on Sunday evening.

Ranjit alleged that he suffered injuries after he fell into a ditch while running away from a person who attacked him near Antony Katte. – *The Hindu*, 10th.

Four assault cases reported since Ulaibettu incident

“Certain groups are trying to disturb the peace in the city by attacking persons and instigating communal hatred. The police are prepared to tackle such incidents firmly and book those involved in such acts,” said Police Commissioner R. Hithendra.

Talking to The Hindu on Wednesday, Mr. Hithendra said there were intelligence inputs about certain groups trying to attack people from a certain community and create a sense of hatred among the community members towards the government.

The police are well-prepared to deal with such attacks with an iron hand, he said.

Four cases of assault and two instances of stabbing were reported in the city since the group clash in Ulaibettu. Police have already arrested persons involved in some cases, while they are on the verge of nailing down the perpetrators in the remaining cases, he said.

Planned attack

Mr. Hithendra said the police acted swiftly to find those allegedly involved in the assault of Taslim Arif, a resident of Katipalla Krishnapura, within few hours of the incident. They traced perpetrators with the help of some eyewitnesses. The arrested person revealed the names of other allegedly involved in the attack. “The arrested person admitted that the attack was to create tension in the area,” he said.

Mr. Hithendra said the police were examining footages of closed circuit cameras installed in the area to find those involved in the attack on a newspaper vendor Yogish, near a bar in Bunder on Monday night. Those accused in the stabbing of Syed Wasim in Bunder on Sunday night have been identified, he said.

Mr. Hithendra said orders have been issued asking each police station to hold peace committee meetings in their areas and resolve the issues. He said the police were checking vehicles at various points in the city, as stolen vehicles were being used by those involved in the incidents reported after Friday’s group clashes, he said. – *The Hindu*, 11th.

The Mangaluru Rural police have arrested five more persons for their alleged involvement in a stone-throwing incident following a procession by Bajrang Dal activists on December 8 condemning the group clash in Ulaibettu.

The police had earlier arrested seven others.

Their names were given as Sandhesh, Vijay, Mohan, Pramod and Praveen Acharya from Ulaibettu. Those earlier arrested were Rajesh, Divakar, Prashant,

Charanraj, all from Moodshedde, Rakesh from Talapady, and Manoj from Panjimogaru.

A large number of people took part in the protest demonstration held near Perari Junction on the road that leads to Ulaibettu. Stones were thrown on policemen and the protesters were cane charged. – *The Hindu*, 13th.

8.12.2014. Mangaluru.

According to reports a group of around 15 men all from one community brutally attacked a motorcycle rider near Kadambu alleging that he did not allow a mini truck to overtake him. No sooner a picture of the senseless beating was uploaded on WhatsApp than men from both communities gathered at the place. But the arrival of police helped ease the tense situation. The police arranged to admit the injured person to the local government hospital. – *Karavali Ale*, 9th.

8.12.2014. Mangaluru.

Nine persons have been arrested in connection with three cases registered following a skirmish between Ayyappa devotees and a few local residents in Sunkadakatte in Bajpe police station limits on Monday.

An argument led to an exchange of blows between Ayyappa devotees and a group of residents near a polytechnic in Sunkadakatte on Monday.

The police said a group of people came to the tent where Swami Ayyappa devotees had camped and asked them not to pray loudly. This led to a heated exchange of words between the two groups and exchange of blows.

Both the groups have lodged separate complaints at the Bajpe police station. A person who was injured in the incident has filed a separate complaint. – *The Hindu*, 9th.

9.12.2014. Belthangady.

Miscreants threw stones and damaged the glasses of first floor window of the Badriya Juma Masjid at Kanyadi early in the morning. The incident came to light at 4 a.m. when the muezin came for the morning call. The matter was reported to the police. In the meantime a large crowd gathered in front of the mosque. However the police arrived and they managed to mollify the agitated people. A case has been registered. – *Vartha Bharati*, 10th.

11.12.2014. Mangaluru.

A 30-year-old man was stabbed on his back reportedly by two unidentified men in Kana near Katipalla second cross on Thursday. Surathkal police said the two

motorcycle-borne men stabbed Tausif when he was returning home from gymnasium. He has been admitted to a private hospital in Mukka.

A large number of people had gathered at the place of the incident. Police Commissioner R. Hithendra and other police officers rushed to the spot and dispersed the mob. – *The Hindu*, 12th.

Two men, Dhanush and Wilson Pinto from Katipalla have been arrested in connection with incident. – *Karavali Ale*, 18th.

16.12.2014. Mulky.

The 'Muslim Alkyata Samavesha' being organised under the auspices of Al Madrasatul Badria Juma Masjid Jamat Committee Badria Nagar Angaragundi from December 18 to 20, is facing the threat of cancellation. The owner of the hall has now refused permission after a series of incidents wherein banners put by two communities were found damaged. Though a compromise was reached in a meeting held by the police in the presence of BJP leaders, it was short-lived. Meanwhile a complaint has been lodged by the organisers of Kateel *Yakshagana* troupe asking for security after their banner was found torn a few days ago. The police are keeping a strict vigil to prevent untoward incidents. – *Karavali Ale*, 17th.

It is learnt that senior police officers have visited the site on December 17 and given necessary permission to hold the event. Following this the local *panchayat* met and gave its conditional permission. – *Karavali Ale*, 18th.

18.12.2014. Mangaluru.

The police took Varun, Gajendra Gatty and Nitin into custody on charges of stabbing Saifulla at Bunder in Mangalore on December 6. It was the day after the Ulaibettu clashes (see: **5.12.2014. Mangaluru**). The police have already arrested the accused in the other three cases of stabbing that occurred at Bunder, Suratklal and Bajpe. – *Vartha Bharati*, 19th.

19.12.2014. Puttur.

In the surcharged atmosphere presently prevailing in the region any incident involving two communities is sought to be given a communal turn. Kusuma, a 35 year old woman died after she was hit by a Maruti Omni vehicle. The driver happened to be a Muslim by name Farooq. A crowd of local persons stopped the vehicle and attacked Farooq. When police came to know about the accident they rushed to the spot and managed to rescue Farooq. Later a more than a hundred hindutva activists led by Dr Prasad Bhandary, Arun Kumar Puthila, Murali Krishna Hansatadka and Vasantha Kabaka went in a procession to the police station, surrounded it and started shouting slogans. They demanded that the police should apologise for having used abusive language while rescuing the

driver from the crowd. The situation became normal after Dr Prasad Bhandary held talks with the police. – *Vartha Bharati*, 20th.

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Summary

In all a total of around 173 communal incidents took place during the year 2014. Out of those

39 were incidents of moral policing allegedly by Hindu vigilantes

14 were incidents of moral policing allegedly by Muslim vigilantes

9 were incidents related to allegations of religious conversion

22 were incidents of cattle vigilantism.

8 were incidents of hate speech.

81 were other communal incidents.

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Compiled by: Suresh Bhat B., member, PUCL, Mangalore and district president of Karnataka Communal Harmony Forum.

Note: All data are based on available local media reports. It is likely that there could be quite a number of unreported cases too.

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