

Replays of violence

Wednesday, March 13, 2013 - Staging protests, condemning incidents, every one taking notices, suo mottos and later on announcement of compensation after death and destruction of innocent people has become a regular feature in our country. It is not the first time that Christians have been targeted; there is large number of such incidents where minorities have been attacked. The nation was still under shock on account of Abbas Town incident where Shia community was attacked when a bomb blast resulted in killing 46 people and injuring over 100 and we had to witness worst riots in Badami Bagh Lahore on alleged blasphemy case.

The law on the issue is very clear, the matter has to be reported to the police who register the case arrest the individual and start their investigations. Why this principle was violated and who were behind such brutal incident where over 120 houses along with their property were looted or put to fire. The police only arrived once the damage was completed. It is not failure of police but total incompetence and bad governance.

It has become an sop for the people to attack Christian community, burn their property on account of blasphemy incident and get away with it. Unfortunately every time such incident occurs government fails to punish the culprits as a result we witness action replays. The question is not making houses for affectees, giving them money but to arrest this tendency.

In Aug 2011 there were famous riots in Tottenham London where protesters looted and burnt shops and millions of ponds property was destroyed. The London police after having controlled the situation in two days arrested over 2500 people through CCTV footage and put them behind the bars. They were tried in the court on the basis of the CCTV footage and with in one week over 1000 rioters were given four years imprisonment. That is what is needed here. All those arrested should be put through special trials and punished with in a week. You don't require witnesses in this case as everything is crystal clear. Until and unless deterrent punishment and quick dispensation of justice is given we shall continue watching such replays in future also. Just imagine if Christians decide to go on strike Lahore will be stinking so badly making life difficult as these people cannot be replaced by any other community. We must ensure their freedom guaranteed under the constitution that says the first and the foremost duty of the government is to protect life freedom and property of every citizen irrespective of cast and creed. Have we done it a million dollar question?

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