CHAPTER – V

COMMUNAL OUTBREAK AND ITS DIMENSIONS

Thirtieth July 1928 remains a tragic day in the annals of princely Mysore. On that day, certain incidents and disorders took place in the city of Bangalore, involving innocent school children which later transformed in to a full fledged communal disturbance. They created disturbances over very vast areas including public offices, the Central Jail and the main entrances to the city. Within a few hours of the outbreak, the adult population also got involved which culminated in a serious riot between the Muslims and the Hindus. The riot was certainly of very short duration and the rioters were suppressed with
the help of the army before midnight. But panic and tension continued
to prevail throughout the night of July 30, and the days and nights
which followed.

As in every other communal conflict which are contemporaneous
to us, the 1928 disturbances also produced their own rumour-mills
which began churning out highly exaggerated versions of the
individual incidents and also blatant lies about the communities
involved. The rumour mongers succeeded in creating greater social
cleavages not only in Bangalore but also in other parts of the state.
Consequently, there were also hostilities between the Muslims and the
Hindus in other parts of the state. In the present chapter it is proposed
to examine the factors behind these disturbances which became a blot
the fair name of the city and its delicate inter - community relations.

The communal conflict which engulfed the Bangalore city in July
1928, emerged from the city municipal school. According to the
contemporary accounts, an image of Ganesha existed in the central
hall of the building of the Municipal school. Over a period of time the
Municipal school got transformed in to “S.R. Nanjundaiah’s Hindu A.V.
School”. However, the school was not functioning during a particular
interlude in the early 20th century According to some accounts
in 1921, one Mr. H.P. Krishna Rao, Head Master of the school conceived the idea of training the students in practical gardening and developing their aesthetic instincts. He developed the uncultivated school compound into a beautiful garden. A number of small pots were laid out in which small boys grew flowers and ornamental plants and in each pot was kept as a sort of tutelary deity one of the stone images of Hindu gods which they found scattered over the premises. In the central plot in the compound, which was the largest, an image of Ganesha or "the god of wisdom and remover of obstacles" while the other images were forgotten over the years, assumed greater importance because of its appeal for 'success' in the examinations. It is stated that at the end of the examinations, the boys used to empty their ink bottles on the head of the image in order to propitiate the deity.  

A couple of months before the communal trouble started, the boys had taken the Ganesha image and asked the school contractor, one Mr. Nanjundaiah to oblige them by repairing the pedestal and also building over it a small arched niche for the better protection of the image. The contractor obliged them by constructing a niche between
June 2 and 5, 1928. The cost of construction was not substantial and hence the contractor did not charge for it.

However, prior permission of the authorities was not taken for the construction. The contractor seems to have thought that there could be no objection since a pedestal was already there. The structure was erected when the Head Master was on leave and he saw as completed for the first time on his return from leave on 5th June, 1928. Some days before that is on 29th May, the idol had been removed and taken to the scout room of the school by the boys.5

Mr. N.S. Subba Rao, the Director of Public Instruction received a D.O. Letter under date the 12 June 1928 from the private secretary to the Dewan, stating that the Dewan under stood that a small temple, likely to develop in to a big one, was being erected in the compound of the school, and requesting him to look into the matter and find out what could be done to stop its construction as it was apprehended that with a mosque in the close proximity, the construction of such a structure was undesirable as it might lead to communal tension. The Director of Public Instruction, accordingly paid a surprise visit to the institution arriving there at about 10.15 A.M. on the 15 June. He conducted a general inspection of the premises. He also examined the
newly erected niche. The Head Master of the school informed him about all the particulars.

According to the Head master, the boys intended to provide another step to the pedestal a door of expanded metal to the opening of the niche and a stone slab in front for breaking coconuts at the times of worship. The Director thought that if the image were brought back to the niche, it would be difficult to see it removed in the future and he therefore felt that it would be better to act before it became too late. It seemed to him desirable to collect the necessary information and consult the Government regarding the desirability or otherwise of allowing anything like a permanent institution for denominational worship within the precincts of a state building in which a public school was held for the benefit of all the communities. According to him, the state revenue was contributed by all the communities and hence it would be undesirable to have sectarian worship in a state run school compound. The Director of public instruction had a correct way of thinking on secular lines.

He therefore, called for a report from the Head Master on the history of the image which he noticed laying in the compound, unconsecrated and orally instructed the Head Master not to permit
further developments or allow the image to be restored to its old place till he heard from again. The Head Master accordingly issued a memorandum on the same day, requesting the teachers to explain the situation to the boys and ask them to suspend further arrangements.

The Director of public instruction later wrote to the Private Secretary to the Dewan explaining the above circumstances and stating that, as the compound of the school was used as a passage by the boys of the Urdu school which was situated just behind the A.V. school, he was of the opinion that it was undesirable to restore the image itself to its old place in the school compound. He added that he had not only ordered the suspension of further activities in respect of the Ganesh idol, but had also instructed that a number of other idols lying about the place should be removed and placed inside the school building.

He promised to further inquire into the whole matter and to take suitable action to make sure that "on the one hand, no attempt is made at any worship in the school compound area, and on the other hand, that the susceptibilities of the boys who seem to have taken much interest in the matter are not hurt".
On June 21, the Director of Public Instruction had to make certain inspections in the same locality in company with Mr. Abbas Khan, the then president of the Bangalore city Municipal council and other municipal officers. According to the Director, Mr. Abbaskhan on that day took the overseer attached to the Education Department to task for having permitted the construction of the niche without the permission of the higher authorities.

The Eruption of Discontent

For almost a fortnight passed without any untoward incidents. The school had not received any complaint whatsoever from either the parents or the public. The boys were also keeping mum without any murmuring. However the incident in the school was sufficient enough for the forces of communalism and the forces of rumour mongering.

Mr. Abbaskhan had his own political rivals and also those who were interested in breaking the non-Brahmin - Muslim axis which was gaining considerable political mileage in the state. Hence it was natural that interested parties circulated the story that the Ganesha image in the school was kept away from its old seat at the instance of Mr. Abbaskhan.
Mr. Abbaskhan's house was situated just opposite the school and there was masjid (mosque) behind it and easier for anyone to spread the rumour that Mr. Abbas Khan was responsible for the stoppage of the work and the non-restoration of the idol to its old place. They accused that Mr. Abbaskhan was interfering with personal and communal motives. One of the Kannada dailies, "Veerakesari" first gave credence to this rumour by writing an editorial on 27 June 1928. Following this publication, Mr. Abbaskhan sought an interview with the editor and disclaimed the impression that he has any objection to the idol itself.

Very interestingly, some attempts were made subsequently for the restoration of the idol. Mr. T.T. Sharma, the editor of the Kannada newspaper Visvakarnataka wrote a letter to the Director of Public Instruction, but the response from the Director was not satisfactory. A reporter of the Veerakesari newspaper also called on the Director of Public Instruction on 27 June to inquire into the matter. But the reporter was not satisfied with the meagre information supplied, published with comments a report of his interview with the Director of Public Instruction in the issue of that paper on 28 June 1928.
On 24 July when the Director of Public instruction was in Pavagada, he received a communication from the Development Secretary to Government, enclosing a copy of the letter dated 3 July from the Editor of Visvakarnataka and asking for a statement of facts on the case. The statement was supplied by the Director from Sira on 27 July, 1928.

Organized Agitations

On 23 July, to the surprise of many, an organized, well orchestrated agitation started by the students and some members of the public for the restoration of the idol. One Mr. H.V. Subramanyam of Malleswaram area in the city joined the agitation and he even came to lead the struggle. With the outside support, the boys began to demand the restoration of the Ganesha idol to the niche which had been newly constructed. 

The protest rally of 23 July was not an isolated incident. On 24 July the same H.V. Subramanyam, a Brahmin leader of Malleswaram organized the students in front of the school. Mr. Subramanyam forced the students not to enter the building until the Ganesha idol was restored. He openly coerced students from other schools also to join the agitation. The demonstration was so noisy and disturbing infront of
the school that the Head Master of the school became apprehensive about the safety and security of the school and its staff. His pleas for restoring order in front of the school were totally ignored by Mr. Subramanyam and the students.

The Head Master, fearing some trouble, went to the New Market Police Station and reported the occurrences to the Police Inspector. The Inspector immediately proceeded to the school with a small contingent of constables. He posted a few constables in front of the school and then went in pursuit of Mr. Subramanyam and the boys. The inspector saw around 100 students and Mr. Subramanyam marching towards Balepet square via Chickpet area. On the same day, he saw another group of boys near the Mysore Bank Circle at 1.15 p.m. under the leadership of the same Subramanyam, raising the voice in full throat. The attendance in the city municipal school was only 49, against a total strength of 344.

The agitation continued on the next day also. Around 10.30 AM on 25 July a small crowd of boys collected outside the school, the number of those attending the class, rose to 97 from 49. Mr. Subramanyam and Ramlal Tiwari stood on the spot and demanded that the students should not enter the classes until the idol was placed
under the new niche. They obstructed the traffic on the road and attempted to coerce the boys of the other schools also to join them.

After a while he and his colleague, Tiwari led the slogan - shouting agitators to the Mamoolpet school, a branch of Sultanpet middle school, where, after creating the disturbances and pelting stones, they induced some of the students to join them. Later, they marched towards the Arya Vidya Patasala a school on the hospital lane to repeat the same procedure. But the Head Master of the Arya vidya Patasala firmly refused to let off the classes. Thereafter, the crowd moved towards the Municipal garden near the Dharmambudhi tank. Here, both he and Mr. Tiwari lectured to the boys for about half an hour, advising them on no account to enter the classes, till their demand was met.20

After sufficient indoctrination on communal lines, the boys were led through Akkipet and Aralepet to Chamarajpet Middle school which they reached at about 12.30. After about 15 minutes demonstration there, they proceeded to the Fort A.V. school at about 1 pm. They informed the Head Master of this school that they had gone to obtain their sympathetic support for the resotaration of Ganesha image in the city municipal school.21
The Head Master of the school blatantly refused to accede to their demands. Thereupon, the strikers shouted and threw stones into the class rooms. The Head Master thought it, wise to dismiss the classes and made a report of the occurrence to the Asst. Superintendent of Police.

Unperturbed, Mr. Subramanyam later collected the students under a tree on the Police Parade ground, facing the A.V. School at about 1.15 pm. He then explained to the boys, the origin of the image, the circumstances leading to its removal. According to Subramanyam, it was an insult to Hindu religion to remove the idol. He insisted that under no circumstances the boys should go back to resume their classes. After this, he dispersed the meeting with a promise that they should reassemble in the evening at the Municipal garden.

Public Meetings

A meeting which was scheduled at 6.30 p.m. outside the New Market Buildings was a turning point in the course of events. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Subramanyam, Ramlal Thivari and J. Bhima Rao. A crowd, mostly students, numbering 200 to 300 attended the meeting.
The speakers deliberately made aspersions on Mr. Abbaskhan and insisted that the removal of the idol from the school premises was an insult to the Hindu religion and that all the Hindus should unite to fight for their genuine rights.

The strike continued unabated on 26 July with the number of boys attending the classes coming down to 58. As on the previous day, the strikers led by Mr. Subramanyam, gathered near the school at the time of the opening of the school and by sheer physical force, they compelled a large number of students to boycott the classes. Later, they proceeded to the Mamoolpet school and the Arya Vidya Patsala. After swelling their ranks with the boys of those institutions, they gathered at the Municipal garden to listen to the speech of Mr. Subramanyam.

Later the agitating students marched towards Malleswaram. A meeting was held opposite the library building. Mr. Subramanyam made another prevocative speech and there was attempt to block the traffic on the road. The police inspector cautioned them against such moves.

The police inspector was attacked with sticks and stones. Around 1.15 p.m. under the guidance of Messrs. Subramanyam and
Tiwari, the mob, armed with sticks and stones, rushed into the compound of the Malleswaram middle school, hooting and shouting. They damaged some of the windows and insisted on the Head Master dismissing the classes to enable the boys to join the strike. The Head master, while trying to reason with them was hit on the leg with a stone. The mob then left the place at about 1.30 pm when the classes were let off for the interval, but only to repeat their tactics at High School and the Primary Schools in the same locality. After this, they again proceeded to the Municipal Garden to hold another meeting. At about 5 pm, they returned to the Sultanpet school, where having placed a picture of Ganapathri in the empty niche and offered prayers, they dispersed.

Towards Satyagraha:

On the following day, i.e., 27th July, only 41 boys attended the Sultanpet school. The strikers led by Mr. Subramanyam paraded the streets with a picture of Ganesha fixed to a pole till the afternoon. At about 4.30 p.m. the agitation assumed a new turn, the agitators started Satyagraha as a passive resistance. They stopped their street marching and, as the school gate was closed, began to squat in batches of six on the road in front of the Sultanpet school, performing
Bhajana, by reciting religious songs. A huge crowd gathered around them and traffic was obstructed. Despite the warnings by the police, the leader Subramanyam took a defiant stand and made speeches, in a highly offensive way against the Muslims. The same evening the Deputy commissioner issued orders to initiate proceedings to bind over the three leaders to keep the peace. The Satyagraha was held the whole night and the boys who observed it were fed by the sympathisers on the spot.

On July 28, only 8 boys attended the Sultanpet school Satyagraha was continued and the whole area from Gundopanth street crossing up to Mysore Road was blocked by large crowds. The Deputy Commissioner, while coming to the spot in the morning was obstructed by the crowd at the Nalbandwadi square and hence he went back.

Two covered carts, going to Urdu girls school, which was situated next door to Mr. Abbas Khan's house, were obstructed. Apparently, inside those covered carts, there were Muslim girls. This irritated the Muslims who were present there. However, by the timely intervention of the police, a clash was averted. A complaint was lodged to the Asst. Superintendent of Police.
The situation was taking a serious turn. Alarmed by the potential chance of the eruption of inter-community clashes, a group of prominent citizens intervened. They made strenuous efforts to see that the agitation was called off at once with the promise that the idols were restored to the newly constructed niche. A written undertaking was taken from all the councilors, including Mr. Abbaskhan, the President, promising to see that the image was restored within 10 days. But while two of the leaders, Mr. Tiwari and Bhima Rao were agreeable, Mr. Subramanyam refused to budge an inch until the idol was restored.

He told the boys that he was to be arrested and that on no account they should give up Satyagraha till the image was actually restored. Inspite of heavy rain, which began to pour in the evening, the Satyagrahis continued to squat outside, and at about 6 pm, they took up their position near the room, where the image was kept.

**Arrest and the Aftermath**

On 29th July, two of the leaders of the agitation, Messrs. Subramanyam and Bhima Rao were arrested in the course of proceedings taken under section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The Satyagraha, however continued and a large crowd collected in the compound of the Sultanpet school where Mr. T.T. Sharma editor of
Visvakarnataka, discoursed on the Ganesha incident and explained to them the attempts made by him and others to prevent the situation growing serious. Mr. Sankaranarayana Rao approached the Dewan about the restoration of the image\(^*\) and the Dewan who, it may be mentioned, was absent from Bangalore between the 18\(^{th}\) and 26\(^{th}\) July. The Dewan was willing to go to the spot himself, but on noticing Mr. Matthan, Member in charge of Education Portfolio, coming in, asked him to visit the school instead and do the needful.

Mr. Matthan, the Council Member arrived at the school at about midday, when he found Mr. Sharma addressing the crowd. At the representation of the people who were present there, Mr. Matthan promised to order the immediate restoration of the image.

Despite these assurances, the Satyagraha was not withdrawn. Because the whole struggle was part of a deeper conspiracy. After the arrest of Mr. Subramanyam and Tiwari one Mr. Shivabhatta a resident of Anekkal taluk, who was a believer in passive resistance took the place of the arrested leaders and helped the boys to continue the Satyagraha. A crowd of students and others also attempted to rush the office of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, under the impression that the arrested leaders were lodged there. But on being
assured that they had been taken to central jail, they dispersed. At about 3 p.m. Mr. Sundaresan Iengar, Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction came to Sultanpet school and restored the image.

Despite the restoration the Satyagraha was continued with a new demand - release of the arrested leaders. The boys who practiced this Satyagraha were fed by the sympathisers and the onlookers as in previous days.\textsuperscript{30}

Messrs Subramanyam and Bhim Rao were lodged in the central jail and Mr. Ramlal Tiwari who was arrested later, was also brought to the central jail. In order to allay public feeling and stop further agitation, strenuous efforts were made by several citizens to induce the prisoners to obtain their release either by furnishing sureties or by tendering an apology as suggested by the Government. At length, after much persuasion they agreed and signed a form of apology. But the same did not meet with the approval of the officers of the Government.\textsuperscript{31}

On the same night at about 8.30 pm, some 250 boys including seven year old children came in procession, carrying a picture of Ganesha. They were accompanied by a few adult persons. They insisted on seeing the prisoners and demanded their release.
Struggle intensified

On 30 July, the students of the Sultanpet school still continued their agitation under the supervision of Mr. Sarvabhatta who arrived from Anekkal. To some extent, Sarvabhatta was assisted by Mr. T.T. Sharma, the editor of Visvakarnataka. Although no overt acts of actual disturbance was reported, yet there were premonitions that the situation might develop more seriously. Hand bills in large numbers were being circulated calling upon the boys of all schools to go on strike. According to Mr. Vajapeyam Venkatesaiya two or three students cycled all the way from Mysore and reported that many more boy sympathisers would arrive in the course of the day. A poster had been fixed to the compound wall, announcing a meeting on the Gandhi Maidan in the evening. At the same time, there was an attempt in the direction of a peaceful settlement.

Mr. K. Sankaranarayana Rao continued his efforts of the previous day to this end, met the Deputy Commissioner and the Inspector General of Police and discussed with them the draft of apology which he placed before them, but as the draft did not contain an expression of regret for past acts by these strike leaders, it was not accepted.
The peace and tranquility of the city received the first rude shock when the strikers of the Sultanpet school went to the Fort High School at 11 a.m. caused disturbances and called upon the boys to boycott the classes. The boys of this school boycotted the classes and several of them joined the agitators. On requisition by the Head Master of the Fort High School, The Asst. Superintendent of Police went there and persuaded the boys to disperse. Within a short time, reports were received by the Asst. Superintendent of Police of similar out breaks at the London Mission School and the Wesleyan Mission High School, both of which institutions had to be closed by the authorities concerned in order to prevent further mischief. The agitators, including some grown-up boys, also visited the Central college at about noon and inspite of every effort on the part of the Principal and the Professors, the normal work of the Central College could not be proceeded with. The crowd remained at the Central College till 1.30 pm. The Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Police Inspectors under him visited all the above schools and dispersed the crowds. The Asst. Superintendent of Police then went back to his office to collect information from all the centres of disturbances and to muster the Reserve Police Force as the situation was rapidly assuming serious proportions. The agitators, having succeeded in getting the colleges
and schools closed, next turned their attention to the Central jail where their leaders had been incarcerated.\textsuperscript{35}

The agitating students arrived at the Central Jail at 12-15 pm. 500 to 600 strong, including a few older boys of 18 to 20 years of age, gathered. Some of them were holding small branches of tree in their hands. They threw stones and some of which struck the main gate of the jail, the window shutters of the Chief Jailor's quarters situated over the main gate, and several other parts of the jail buildings. They also uprooted some garden plants.

Repeated attempts were also made to force open the Jail gates. Injuries were caused to six wardens by stone throwing. The Superintendent told the boys that he had no power to release the leaders unless he received orders from the District Magistrate or the City Magistrate.\textsuperscript{36} This eased the situation at the jail for the time being and some of the students dispersed, but a large body of them moved in the direction of the Carlton House, the Residence of the Dewan at 12.30 p.m.

The official residence of the Dewan was not heavily guarded, as it used to be the practice. The crowd virtually laid a seige to the House, threw stones and damaged flower pots. One of them was rattling a
metal box with a writing, "Ganapathi Satyagraha", demanding contributions. At that time, the third member of the council, Chief Secretary and the Deputy Commissioner, the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Inspector General of Police arrived. The District magistrate, after observing the state of affairs, telephoned to the Chief commandant of the Mysore State Troops, for military aid.

The Dewan, the Deputy commissioner and the other officials tried to persuade the agitators. But they kept on demanding the immediate release of the arrested leaders. The Dewan was anxious that there should not be any arrests in his house. Finally he left the Carlton House for the Public offices. Some boys laid down infront of the car and had to be lifted out of the way. Some persons in the crowd threw stones at the car and broke the glass panes when it stopped for a few seconds while the compound gate, which the boys had closed, was being opened. The Deputy Commissioner stated that the number of boys in the compound was about a thousand and that even after the Dewan left, the agitators did not leave the premises. Despite a big contingent of Reserved Police, the boys could not be dispersed peacefully. The authorities did not want to use force. Later with the
help of cavalry, by keeping the horses moving, they succeeded in clearing the crowd from the compound without any injury to any one.\textsuperscript{38}

The agitating students who were ejected from the Dewan’s quarters proceeded to the central jail at 2.30 p.m. their second visit, and as the situation there was reported to be serious, the District Magistrate instructed the Mysore Lancers contingent to send the cavalry to guard approaches to jail and prevent crowds collecting.

Accordingly, the Lancers took up position in three important places in the city, at the Yelahanka gate square, another at Kantharaj Urs circle and a third at the Hindu Hostels on the Railway Station Road. The sowars were moving up and down from those places, some up to the K.R. Circle. In the second visit, the students began to throw stones and committed other acts of rowdyism. Among those hit were the Inspector General of Police, Jail Superintendent and others. Although the Inspector General of Prisons interviewed and requested the imprisoned leaders to write to the boys outside to resist from committing excesses, the leaders refused. In all, 11 members of the jail staff, including two superior officers were injured. At 5 pm the crowd near the Jail numbered 3,000 to 4000 and it included some adults also.
In the meanwhile, other boys had begun to gather at the public offices from about 2 pm. Those who were dispersed from the Dewans quarters and followed his car swelled the number. They stood in groups in the central portico and some sat on the lawns. As they were further doing mischief, the Mysore Lancers were brought to disperse them. In the process, injuries were inflicted on both sides. The police and the military forces being found inadequate a requisition was made for further military aid and Lt. Col. Landon sent a second squadron of 110 Lancers. It was at first, difficult to disperse the crowd of boys as they were in scattered groups all over the place, on the lawns, on the trees and on the roads. The crowd used heaps of road metals stacked there and pelting at the Lancers. The movements of the sowars on the horse back and the stone throwing by the boys resulted in injuries to both sowars and the boys. One boy, Mylariah fell in the way of a sowar and trampled by the horse and received serious injury to his leg. Later an Infantry force of 61 men and 4 officers was also called in to guard the Public Offices.

Riots

While the military and the crowds were thus engaged at several places mentioned above, some leading public men, including lawyers,
requested the Dewan to release the three ‘leaders’. The Dewan agreed to see six representatives of the boys and spoke to them, and eventually the govt. agreed to the release of the leaders on their entering into personal recognizances before the City Magistrate. The arrested leaders were prevailed upon to agree to this condition in the interest of the boys and they were accordingly released at 6.30 pm by the City Magistrate. The prominent public men who helped to obtain the release of them got a promise from them and also the boys at the jailgate that they would go home quietly.  

However the promise was not kept up. Messrs Subramanyam and Tiwari, two of the released leaders, were carried on the shoulders in a procession via Dodpet and the Market square to the Sultanpet school, where they reached by 7 pm. The third released person Bhima Rao travelled in a car with Dr. Gopalakrishna and Belur Srinivasa Iyengar, an advocate also went to the Sultanpet school. On their way, Srinivasa Iyengar made 5 short speeches in different places in a provocative manner. Even on reaching the school, he made another speech, standing on his car.

At this time some Muslims had gathered on the upper and lower verandahs of the cycle stand, which was situated to the south of the
school at the junction of the Arcot Srinivasa char street and the Police Station Road. When the main procession had reached the school, there were only 4 constables on duty under one sub-inspector to maintain order in a crowd which was estimated at 3,000 to 5000. After they arrived at the school, the leaders went into the compound for Mangalarthi (worship). After this, disorder ensued which soon developed into a serious riot. During the fight, some people ran to the office of the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the market police station to report and obtain assistance. The top police officers who were having a high-level meeting were informed about serious rioting and firing in some parts of the city.\textsuperscript{41}

The District Superintendent of Police and the Assistant Superintendent of Police arrived on the rioting scene and they found both Hindu and Muslim crowds with Lathis in their hands. The Hindu crowd was pelting stones at the mosque adjacent to the place, apparently to frighten the Mussalmans.

The District Superintendent of Police said that the Muslims who had gathered at the Nalbandwadi square made enquiries whether the Dewan Sir Mirza Ismail was injured. The Muslims also wanted to protect the house of Mr. Abbaskhan, the Municipal President. It is
stated that shortly after the shower of stones on Abbaskhan's house, five or six shots from a revolver came from the upper storey of the cycle shop and two or three shots from the upper storey of Mr. Abbas Khan's house. At the same time, some 15 Muslims armed with lathis rushed out of Mr. Abbarkhan's house. The armed crowd attacked the Hindu crowd, which was engaged in pelting stones.

Some interested parties spread the rumour that some boys were dragged into Abbas Khan's house, which the enquiry committee found as totally false. Because police could not get any complaint about anybody missing. If any boys had been killed, evidence would have been forthcoming that boys were missing. The parents and neighbourers would not have remained silent.

As to how many people were actually injured in the riot on the night of 30th July it is impossible to say. But some idea may be gathered from the admissions into the hospitals. The total admissions of injured on the 30th July were 134 civilians. Of these 76 were injured at the Sultanpet school, 5 at the public offices, 4 at the central jail and one at Calton house. Among the Central Jail staff 9 were injured. Similarly around 50 army men (Mysore Lancers) were also injured.
There is overwhelming evidence to show that shots were fired into the air from the cycle shop. It is probable that they were fired into the air to frighten the crowd. Two or three shots were also fired from opposite the school. The news of the riots having reached the civil and Military station (British cantonment) a large number of Muslim groups entered the city area in support of their co-religionists. The crowd included some 500 men. Once they were assured that Mr. Abbas Khan, Municipal President was safe, they were dispersed. In the meanwhile, on the advice of the Lancer officer, Abbas khan had left his house with his family members to Hebbal. On 31st July, the shops were closed for fear of eruption of trouble. Street patrols continued and with the help of Mysore Lancers contingent and the British army from the cantonment, the panic had ceased and public confidence had been restored to some extent.
NOTES AND REFERENCES


2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.


7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

9. According to James Manor, many of the communal disturbances were pre planned. Manor op.cit. p. 8 - 9.

10. See S. Chandrashekhar, op.cit. p. 135.

11. Ibid.

12. Ibid.

14. Ibid.

15. Ibid.

16. Ibid.

17. Ibid.


19. Ibid.

20. Ibid.

21. Ibid.


23. Ibid.

24. Ibid.


26. Ibid.

27. Ibid.

28. Ibid.

29. Home Political File No. 18/xii/1930 – D.O.No.8518 – 2,

    According to this File, many of the Congress leaders in the state were also leaders of *Hindu Maha Sabha*. 


31. Ibid.

32. Gundappa D.V. *Jnapaka Chitra Shale*, "Mysoorina Diwanaru"


33. Home Department Files No. 18/xiii Political Resident’s Letter 7 January

34. At one stage, Dewan who apprehended more trouble, ordered the arrest of Brahmin youths, who were also Congress supporters. They were, Ramlal Tiwari, Subramanyam and Bhim Rao.


36. Ibid.

37. Ibid.

38. Ibid.

39. Ibid.

40. Ibid.

41. See *Fortnightly Report of Mysore* for the first half of August 1928.