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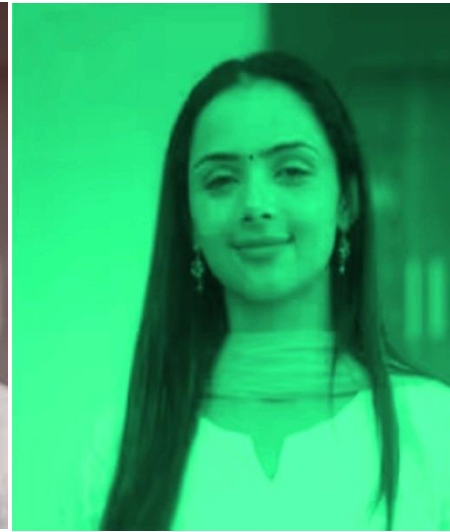
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SHAME: Tennis player's horrific murder reveals the rot in society, mindsets haven't changed, father had shot her four times



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This crime has shaken the country. Radhika Yadav, a tennis player was shot dead in Gurugram near Delhi & the killer turned out to be none other than her own father. Soon after the crime, the police began investigation and it was found that there was tension within the family. The murder of the tennis player allegedly by her own father who pumped four bullets and killed her, show the obsession to control the lives of girls in society, even after they are old enough to take own decisions. As she had got popularity on social media, this too was earlier suspected to be a reason behind the discord within the family. It's a fact that the high incidence of violence against girls and women is a big challenge in South Asia, including India, and despite the modernity, technological changes and their affect on society, the rigid views and the extreme attitudes still remain

towards girls, especially, those those who appear to be a bit more independent. Her father Deepak Yadav was allegedly upset and had been visibly acting differently for more than a week. Though she had tried to make peace and said that she would stop doing things that was not 'acceptable' to her family, yet, this didn't affect her father. The feeling that she was bringing shame (sic) to the family, prompted him to kill her. Yadav fired at her, four times, using his licensed revolver. Her friend, Himaanshika, later said on Instagram that Radhika never went against family and yet her own father killed her. "Radhika didn't deserve this. She was bright, kind, full of dreams and life. And now, she 's gone. This should never have happened. And it can not be forgotten", said Himaanshika. Yadav had earlier financed her tennis career. After an injury, she promised to earn money as an influencer on social media.

Radhika's friend Himaanshika Singh, who is also a tennis player, has posted videos on her instagram page and said that Radhika was suffering. She also said that the killing was premeditated.



Father, arrested for murder

Certain residents apparently taunted him about her dress, lifestyle & made remarks about him living off his daughter's earning. She was focused on training young tennis players, say her friends. But, patriarchy and the social attitude towards girls who are strong-willed and make decisions about their own lives, lead to anger and the traditional mindset about girls, hasn't changed in many regions. From dowry deaths to 'honour killings', harassment and female foeticide, rape and marital violence, there is no end to women's suffering. The social evils and prejudices that have plague the society, haven't gone away, anywhere. They stay in the minds as this case shows.
The Asian Tribune, Boston

From dowry deaths to the most barbaic and shameful 'honour killings', torture, harassment & female foeticide, horrific rapes and marital violence, there is no end to the suffering of women. The society needs to accept that there is a huge issue & nothing will change if people refuse to introspect.

Remembering the Revolutionary: Great freedom fighter Barkatullah Bhopali who established the Government of India in Exile



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The great freedom fighter was Prime Minister of the Govt of India that was set up in Exile, in 1915. Raja Mahender Pratap, his close associate and fellow revolutionary, was its President.

Barkhatullah Bhopali was one of the greatest Indian revolutionaries who spent his entire life, fighting British rule and brought revolutionaries across the world, together for India's freedom.

Pay: DEATH
 Reward: MARTYRDOM
 Pension: LIBERTY
 Battlefield: BRITISH INDIA

This was the call given by the Ghadar Party, the band of revolutionaries, for the cause of India's freedom.

Barkatullah, who was born in Bhopal, in 1854, was among those revolutionaries who dedicated their entire lives for the country.

The fiery leader of Ghadar Party had made the cause of India's independence as his motto from the beginning.

This was the era when political leaders were not even demanding complete freedom. The ill treatment with Indians and the discrimination, apart from harsh laws, had made lives difficult for the Indian citizens.

Even though major political leaders were reluctant to speak for freedom, and were content with a space for dissent and demand for dominion status, Barkatullah and the revolutionaries were planning to overthrow the British govt & establish self rule.

A companion of Lala Hardayal, another leading revolutionary, Barkatullah Bhopali felt that India needed to drive the imperialistic forces out, and

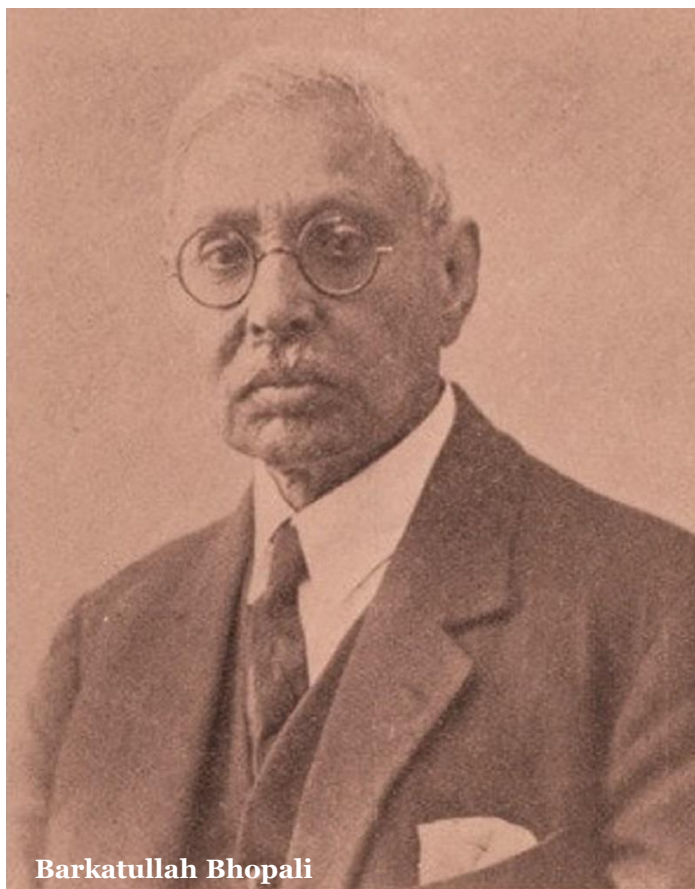
hence the revolutionaries must seek help from other nations. Apart from organizing revolutionaries in US, Japan, Afghanistan, he met leaders of Russian revolution.

Barkatullah Bhopali visited dozens of countries where roused passions among Indians to join hands for the great cause—achieving India's independence.

The scholar whose figure, wearing a red Turkish cap, has inspired generations, had made it a mission to fight for liberation of the motherland from the British rule.

When the revolutionaries were able to form the Government of India in Exile, Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh was made the President while Barkatullah Bhopali was the Prime Minister of this government. The aim of revolutionaries was to launch an attack against British and free the country from the foreign rule.

It caused alarm among the British who used their global power and influence to tackle the revolutionaries. The prevailing international politics, post-WW I scenario and world powers' change of attitude, affected the plans. However, the revolutionary didn't sit silent. From America to Japan & UK to Germany, Barkatullah visited countries that supported Indian citizens' right to self-govern, trying to seek help to form grand alliance against the British rule, in order to fight atrocities & suppression of the ordinary Indians. Throughout his life, British intelligence chased him.



Barkatullah Bhopali

It was the role of Gadar Party and its leaders that first lit the fire of freedom in hearts of Indians living across the world, and from USA to Malaya, the revolutionaries came forward.

Later, this network proved immensely helpful and advantageous when Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose formed the Indian National Army.

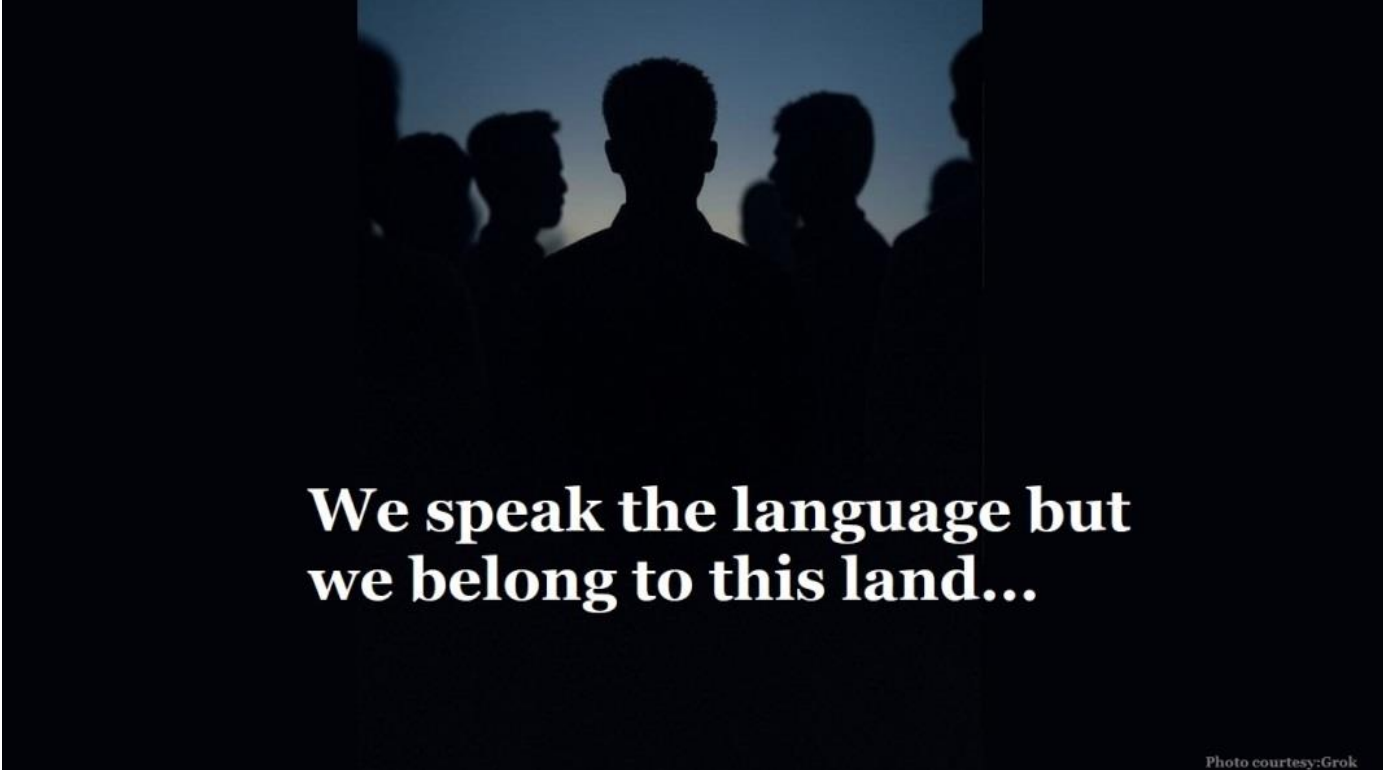
The Ghadar party was named because it aimed at causing the revolution and had a clear vision about ways to fight and defeat the British imperial forces.

In his speeches and writings, his effort for decades in countries across different continents, Prof. Barkatullah succeeded to bring back the revolutionaries of all hues and from diverse backgrounds.

It was while delivering a passionate speech during his visit to USA, that he suffered a heart attack and passed away in 1927. He is buried in San Francisco. Barkatullah didn't live to see India attain freedom, but it was the efforts of these revolutionaries that gave impetus to Indian freedom struggle within and outside the country.

Detaining Bangla speakers, suspecting them as Bangladeshis, turns into a major issue in WB

Bangla is spoken in West Bengal and several other parts of the country. Just because it is the language of Bangladesh, speaking it does not become a 'suspicious activity' in India. Mistreating an Indian citizen, just because he speaks Bengali or suspecting his identity is unfair.



We speak the language but we belong to this land...

Photo courtesy:Grok

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NEW DELHI: If a person speaks Bangla, it doesn't mean that his identity should come under a scanner.

Bangla or Bengali, is one of the major Indian languages and it is not anyone's fault that it is also an international language that has over 150 million speakers in Bangladesh too.

The recent incidents in different states where Indian citizens who speak Bangla were allegedly mistreated or detained (even deported), have brought focus on this issue.

In West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee has already raised the issue and said that there is a continuous targeting of Bengali

speakers who visit other states. She even accused Union government and said that a secret notification has been issued to arrest Bengali speakers. "I will speak more Bangla. Now, send me to the camp", she yelled.

Just when the linguistic issues are heating up in other parts of the country, this latest instance has come as a shock. Any such incident that sends a signal to any group that it is being mistreated due to its cultural, ethnic, linguistic or racial identity, affects the integrity of the nation.

It can have far-reaching consequences and hence it must be ensured that the police should not do an overreach. In fact, many Bangladeshis

come to India with documents and Indians visit Bangladesh, for jobs and businesses, apart from tourism and meeting the relatives.

The excessive focus on the infiltration from Bangladesh, has led to a situation that newspapers and media have created a huge suspicion in North India.

Of late, this has spread to Southern regions too. On Wednesday, Mamata said that the BJP ruled states are targeting the Bengali speakers and demanded an immediate stop to harassment of the Bengali speakers in the country. TMC has said that there are nearly 2.2 million people from West Bengal who work in other states of the country and despite

having the valid documents, they face harassment.

Fazal Mondal and his wife Taslima were termed illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in Maharashtra and sent to Bangladesh. The B'desh border guards then sent them back to India.

Right-wing groups had earlier entered a house in Kushinagar in UP and thrashed salesmen from West Bengal. Last week, Calcutta High Court directed state government to take steps to ensure release of Bengali speakers detained in Odisha. Now, HC has told authorities that just because people speak Bengali, they can't be deported. It has asked Union govt too to submit affidavit in this regard. Email:editor@asiantribune.net



Indian mega cities face high ozone pollution

Bengaluru records a 29% jump in number of days exceeding ozone standard, compared to previous summer. Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad & Chennai record several days when ozone levels exceeded the standards.

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Every leading metropolis and mega city in India – including Kolkata, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Chennai got struck by high ozone levels in the summer of 2025. Ground-level ozone pollution spiked and concentrations exceeded the eight-hour standards on a number of days.

The analysis has been conducted as part of the Air Quality Tracker initiative. The assessment highlights that unlike primary pollutants, ozone is not emitted directly from any source. It forms through intricate chemical reactions involving nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and carbon monoxide (CO) -- pollutants that are released by vehicles, power plants, factories and other combustion sources. In the presence of sunlight, these substances undergo a series of cyclic reactions that result in the formation of ozone at ground level. This has emerged from an analysis done by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), which has been released.

VOCs also have natural sources such as vegetation, adding to the complexity. Ground-level ozone accumulates not only in urban environments but can also travel long distances, turning into a regional pollutant. It can impact agricultural productivity and threaten food security. Given ozone's highly reactive nature, the ambient air quality standards for it are set for eight-hour averages, instead of 24-hour averages.

"If unchecked, this can become a serious public health crisis as ozone is a highly reactive gas and can be

harmful even with short-duration exposures. In contrast to cities in north India where high summer temperatures and intense solar radiation can lead to ozone levels exceeding the standards, other cities in warm climates are experiencing consistent ozone exceedance during other seasons as well", says Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, CSE.

"The current policy focus must be expanded to include improved monitoring and mitigation of this toxic gas and reduction in high local exposures. Ozone mitigation needs drastic control over a range of gases from vehicles, industry and all combustion sources", she adds.

"Inadequate monitoring, limited data and inadequate methods of trend analysis have weakened the understanding of this growing public health hazard across cities of India. Instead of merely averaging out the levels for the city – which is the standard practice to estimate AQI -- it is also important to capture adequately the high levels of local build-up and exposures in the hotspots and to design mitigation strategies accordingly", says Sharanjeet Kaur, deputy programme manager at the Urban Lab in CSE.

The review shows that exposure to ground-level ozone can inflame and damage the airways, increase susceptibility to infections, and worsen respiratory conditions such as asthma, chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

Children with underdeveloped lungs, older adults, and individuals with existing respiratory conditions are particularly vulnerable.



Photo: Kai-Chieh Chan, Pexels.com

Ozone exposure increases the frequency and severity of asthma attacks, often leading to a much higher rate of hospitalisation.

The investigation method: This assessment has traced trends during summer (March-May) between 2022 and 2025 (up to May 31).

It is based on publicly available granular real time data (15-minute averages) from the Central Pollution Control Board's official online portal – the Central Control Room for Air Quality Management. The data has been captured from 80 official stations under the Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System – termed as (CAAQMS, which is spread across Mumbai (31), Kolkata along with Howrah (12), Bengaluru (14), Hyderabad (14) and Chennai (nine).

"Given the volatile and highly localised nature of ground-level ozone pollution build-up and its variability across space, and consistent with the global good practice, this analysis has considered station-level trends in terms of number of days exceeding the eight-hour standard over time."

She points out that as ozone formation depends on complex atmospheric chemistry and on photochemical reactions, its level varies across the time and space horizon. Meteorological parameters such as sunny and warm weather, stagnant wind patterns etc have a bearing on its formation. Kaur says: "This analysis tracks exceedances at each station in metro cities -- breach of the standard by even one station is considered exceedance by the metro city in which the station is located. Days with multiple stations exceeding the standard indicates the severity of the spatial spread and number of people exposed." The study has considered global good practice and taken on board the USEPA approach of computing eight-hour averages for a day and then checking for the maximum value among them to capture the daily ozone pollution level. USEPA assesses city-wide or regional AQI based on the highest value recorded among all stations of the city or the region. Thus, trends have been calculated in terms of number of days when the daily level has exceeded the eight-hour standard.