

# How long shall we tolerate?

Subhashish Mitra



There is a general feeling among most Indians that Pakistan is the incubator and exporter of terrorism to their homeland. Decades of conflicts and subsequent terrorist attacks by Pakistan has only strengthened that notion. From the Kargil conflict to the recent attacks on Pathankot air base, our neighbours has always been the one initiating barbarism, which, since 1947, waged four wars and numerous other exchanges of gunfire.

The 2nd January attacks on the Pathankot air base have again highlighted a major issue that has been ignored over and over again and that is India's foreign policy towards Pakistan. Repeated attempts have been made from the Indian side to maintain a harmonious relationship even though rounds and rounds of gunfire have rattled its borders. The reply from the Pakistan side has been less than convincing with the neighbours categorically denying involvement and the knowledge about the attacks every single time.

The primary dispute between the two nations since their independence from the British Raj has been with Kashmir, the apple of discord between two nations. The first Indo-Pakistani war of 1947 ended with the UN Security Council passing the "Resolution 47" on 22nd April 1948 which gave the northern and western areas of Kashmir to Pakistan and the central, southern and north-eastern regions remained with India with the Line of Control (LOC) as the border.

Apart from the war of 1971, also called the Bangladesh Liberation war, every other war has been on the issue of Kashmir. Attempts at

strengthening the bonds between the two countries have failed over and over again and the Kargil war of 1999 serves as a stark reminder of that. Pakistani troops infiltrated across the LOC and occupied parts of the Kargil district which then saw India retaliate through military and diplomatic manners.

This happened just after the then Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee visited Pakistan for the signing of the Lahore treaty which was an understanding towards the development and testing of nuclear power. Pakistan denied the entire thing by blaming it on 'Kashmiri freedom fighters', which was met with severe criticism from the world and primarily. The United States which was an ally of Pakistan. Pakistan has since then continued to receive criticism for a lot of their actions. From 2001-2014, gunfire was exchanged across the LOC numerous number of times and there have been two standoffs. The 2008 standoff was caused due to the terrorist attack in the state of Mumbai by the Islamic militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba. Later, in 2011 the surviving terrorist confessed that the attack was supported by Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI.

The question that has now emerged is for how long India will continue to propose peace when in reality lives of innocent civilians and army are being lost. The policy towards Pakistan has to change if the continued atrocities are to be stopped. The Bhartiya Janta Party criticised the actions of the UPA government in regards to its policy on Pakistan. After the 2014 general elections, BJP came into power and we still stand at the same place, fighting the same battles and dealing with the same prospect of peace which in reality never existed.

The Pathankot attacks have again served as a reminder that there are major faults in our foreign policy towards Pakistan which can lead to detrimental consequences if not changed. Handshakes have only brought about military and terrorist attacks from our neighbours.



## Business Summit :Bengal invites businessmen to ride the growth

Indrajit Bhattacharjee

The state of West Bengal has always been criticized in terms of business growth and development and amidst all of this the Bengal Global Business Summit has received mixed response over the years. Some argue about it being nothing more than a state sponsored picnic while others believe that it is indeed the winds of change that has started to blow.

The Bengal Global Business Summit was held in the presence of delegates from 25 countries along with the Prime Minister of Bhutan Tshering Tobgay, Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal and Union and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. It was a 2 day program under the theme of "Come to Bengal and Ride the Growth" with the aim to attract investments in the state.

Mamata Banerjee who made a strong pitch for investments seems to have charmed the investors this time around. She made strong claims such as the percentage of growth in the state 10.5% beats the percentage of growth in the country 7.5% and has come in all praise from the top industrialists of the nation who were present there.

Business proposals of around 12,000 crores

INR have been announced so far including big names like Bharti Airtel who promised to invest 3,500 crores over the next 3 years and Subhash Chandra of Essel Group and Zee Bangla promised an investment of around Rs 4,000 crore in the next two years. Mukesh Ambani who has already invested 5,000



crores already promised a further investment in the coming years to take forward his plan of ensuring the next digital broadband gateway. Each industrialist shared their personal viewpoint Bengal has transformed in the last couple of years stating the meet to be more than just a formality.

With so much happening in the business summit there have been questions raised as

well especially from the opposition parties who seem to have a concrete claim to their statement. Mass deception like every year before her election campaigns have emerged as an issue to many. Industrialists fear to come down to a state without proper laws and this will continue to be so until it is checked. The business summit may lead to de-industrialization in the state ultimately and this may be another political campaign disguised as a business summit. There were several investment proposals from the last year's business summit which amounted to 2.43 lakh crore but the actual figures that turned up from those promises were only 600 crores. The industrial development that Mamata Banerjee claims as hers' is a result of the earlier Left Front Government has been the word going on as well.

The Global Business Summit 2016 seems better than the previous years but only time will reveal the real agenda behind it. The state may continue to be a host to several such summits in the coming years but until and unless the changes are visible, Bengal will continue to dwell in the shadows of deception.

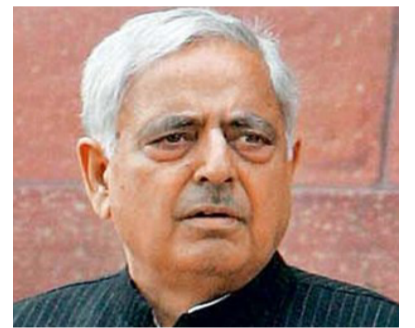
## News In Brief

### Malda Violence

Centre to send a team of officials to Malda to ascertain facts about the recent mob violence that broke at Kaliachak following blasphemous comments on prophet Mohammed by Kamlesh Tiwari, right wing leader of Akhil Bhartiya Hindu Mahasabha in Uttar Pradesh.

Over one lakh muslims went on rampage setting police station and several vehicles on fire. West Bengal CM termed the violence non communal and a clash between local people and Border security Force.

### Mufti Mohammed passes away



Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Mufti Mohammad Sayeed passed away at AIIMS, Delhi, he was aged 79. He was suffering from sepsis for over two weeks and ultimately died due to multiple organ failure. Daughter Mehbooba Mufti, his political heir and chief of the PDP, is set to become the first woman chief minister of the state.

### BIG B replaces Aamir

Veteran Bollywood star Amitabh Bachchan has been selected by replacing Aamir Khan as the next brand ambassador of Incredible India. According to the Tourism Ministry, BIG B's name was finalized for the role of brand ambassador. Bachchan is currently also the brand ambassador of Gujarat Tourism.

### Lodha panel submits report

The Lodha panel which was formed on the orders of the Supreme Court has submitted its report. The panel headed by justice Retd. R.M. Lodha made some key recommendations to cleanse the cricket organization from the sin of betting, conflict of interest etc.

### Saudi severs diplomatic ties with Iran

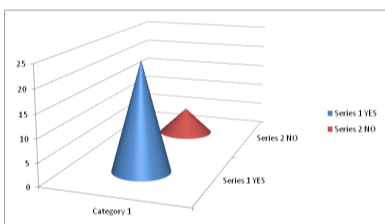
Saudi Arabia severed diplomatic ties with Iran. The two rivals reached a new low in their relations when Saudi Arabia beheaded Shia cleric Nimr-al-Nimr. The Saudi embassy in Iran was set on fire after the news broke out. The recent developments have complicated the political scenario in West Asia.

## Campus Buzz

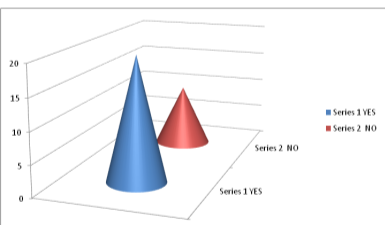


National Youth Day is celebrated in India on 12th January on the birthday of Swami Vivekananda. In 1984 the Government of India declared the day as the National Youth Day and since 1985 the event is celebrated in India every year. Swamiji, the nineteenth century Hindu monk played a major role in introducing India and her spiritual culture to the Western world and in reviving & refining Hinduism within India. His teachings which encompasses spiritualism, universal values, religion, character building, education, womenhood, Hinduism, social issues and national integration has been an inspiration to the youth over generations. However it been a long time and India has evolved from an mere colonial country to an independent and democratic nation. Campus Buzz on the eve of 150th birth anniversary of Vivekananda tries to understand the relevance of Vivekananda's teachings amongst current youngsters of the campus through proper surveys conducted.

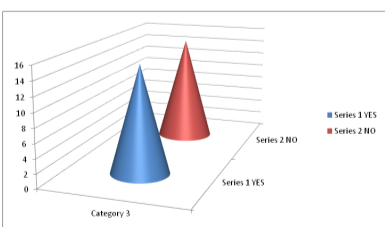
1. Do you justify the celebration National Youth Day?



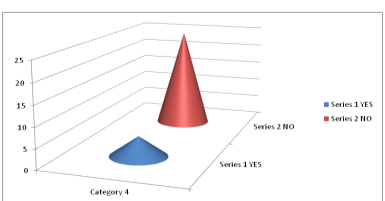
2. Do you consider Swami Viekananda to be India's Youth Icon?



3. Do you think Swami Vivekananda's teachings and philosophies are relevant in today's generation?



4. Do you think the teachings of Swami Vivekananda are well included in academic curriculum?



# 150 years: Vivekananda unparalleled amongst youth

Koustabh Das

Swami Vivekananda's ideas and his call to the youths of India are wide spread and are instilled deep in all the cross sections of our society.

While we accept that he is our youth icon, a question often arises whether Vivekananda is relevant today even after 114 years of his death? It is interesting and debatable for the simple reason that Swami Vivekananda is not identified with any particular religion and had much broader and secular views about various religions.

However it cannot be denied that Vivekananda is widely credited for introducing Vedanta to the western world. He is also attributed for reviving and redefining certain aspects of Hindu religion. But his contributions had a broad specter as far as our country is concerned. The essence of his teachings was love, humanity, compassion,

harmony of religions, universal solidarity and human being as the highest manifestation of spiritual consciousness.

Vivekananda's teachings are relevant for centuries to come because it was him who had cited some of the causes of our downfall. He had said neglecting the masses is our great national sin, neglecting of our women folks as another great sin. Considering some of the developments of the recent past it can be rightly said that this holds considerable grounds even today.

Vivekananda had objected to mass oppression in the name of religion, stressed on the importance of education, had great faith in the younger generation and had said that lack of unity among Indians was also one of the causes of our downfall.

He taught Indians how to love and respect our country and stressed on the importance of national integration and it is for this reason

Vivekananda is regarded as a fiery patriot. Vinobha Bhave, Indian non-violence activist had rightly said "Vivekananda not only made us conscious of our strength, he also pointed out our defects and drawbacks".

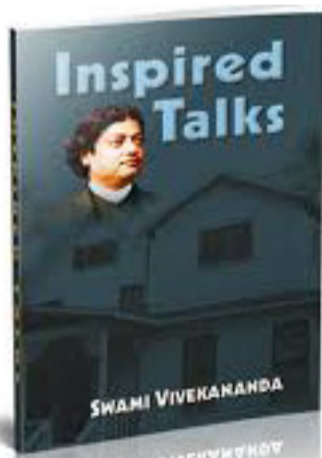
For the youth this country Swami Vivekananda is a role model, an icon, an embodiment of youth, dynamism and vibrancy. He ignited young minds saying "my faith is in the younger generation, the modern generation, out of them will come my workers. They will work out the whole problem like lions".

Vivekananda's teachings are particularly relevant today at a time when divisive forces are working overtime to weaken our country. Let us hope his philosophy and the ideals which he lived continue to inspire our younger generation. India's youth has the capacity to make Swami Vivekananda's third prediction of 'India rising to greater heights of prosperity and power', becoming a reality.



## Book Review: Inspired Talks

Tapatrisa Das



**Book name-** Inspired Talks  
**Author-** Swami Vivekananda  
**Publisher-** The Ramakrishna Mission, Madras  
**Pages-** 273  
**Publication date-** 1909  
**Price-** Rs. 42.75

Narendranath Dutta, known to the world as Swami Vivekananda was an Indian Hindu monk, and a chief disciple of Indian mystic Ramakrishna Paramahansa. He is mostly known for introducing Indian philosophies of Vedanta

and Yoga to the western world, and also for bringing Hinduism to the status of a major world religion. He also founded the Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission. But perhaps he is mostly known for his speech 'Sisters and Brothers of America...' in which he introduced Hinduism at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago, 1893.

Inspired Talks, first published in 1909, is a compilation of the series of lectures of Swami Vivekananda. He conducted a series of private lectures to a group of selected disciples, at the Thousand Island Park, which were recorded by Sara Ellen Waldo and then published them as the book called 'Inspired Talks'.

After his speech at the Parliament of World's Religion in Chicago, he found himself a lot of attention. He went to Detroit in 1894, and conducted a series

of public lectures. From Detroit, he went to several other cities. In December 1894, Vivekananda delivered a lecture before the Brooklyn Ethical Association on Hinduism. After this lecture, the interest of the listeners grew so deep, that they demanded regular classes at Brooklyn.

After finishing the Brooklyn lecture session, he moved to New York, and conducted classes there, too.

The interest of the students grew so much that they requested Swami Vivekananda to conduct summer lecture sessions. However, a place had to be arranged for conducting the lecture sessions. One of the students of Swami Vivekananda, Miss D. offered to use her cottage in Thousand Island Park.

From mid-June to early August, 1895, Swami Vivekananda conducted lecture sessions there, which were recorded by

one of his disciples, Sara Ellen Waldo (later known as Haridasi). Later, his lectures were compiled into the book 'Inspired Talks', first published in 1909 by Ramakrishna Mission, Madras. Swami Ramakrishnananda said, "To mother Haridasi (Miss S. Ellen Waldo) the whole world should be grateful for these "inspired" talks of Swamiji.."

This book, states about Swami Vivekananda's perception about Hinduism and how it has the potential to be a major world religion. Also, how religion and faith can mould the personality of a human being. Swami Vivekananda, being one of the world famous Indian Hindu monk, compilation of his lectures can shape the thought process of an individual.

'Inspired Talks' is a book, that should be read, not just for knowledge, but also for motivation and better understanding of the religion, Hinduism.