

reports of all the commissions that have gone into communal troubles. I would say that minorities are an integral part of India. The Indian minority, the Muslims are the largest minority in the world. You cannot disown them. We have to own them.

17.30 hrs.

RE: HALF-AN-HOUR-DISCUSSION

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we have to take half-an-hour discussion. Smt. Usha Thakkar. Is she not there? She is not here. We are continuing the discussion on the communal situation, because Shrimati Usha Thakkar is not available.

Now, Ch. Sunder Singh can speak on the communal situation.

17.03 1/2

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[Translation]

Communal situation in various parts of the country—contd.

CH. SUNDER SINGH (Phillaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the representatives elected by the people are to be accused for this. When I migrated from Pakistan in 1947, the people of that country wanted to know as to why I was going and asked me to take the gold ornaments with me which they asserted, will stand you in good stead. I gave those ornaments to these Mohammedans and said that I was going for a very short visit and not for permanent abode. They sold those ornaments and sent the money to me.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Ch. Sahib, you are standing near Shri Buta Singh, he is in the Government. Speak carefully.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Be cautious.

CH. SUNDER SINGH: Mahatma Gandhi has said:

[English]

"Bitter experiences has taught me that all temples are not houses of God. They can be habitations of the devil. These places of worship have no value unless the keeper is a good man of God. Temples, mosques, churches are what man makes them to be."

[Translation]

He stated this in 1927. I would say that the number of temples, mosques etc. is so large in India but people in general do not follow the path shown by them. My submission is that nobody else but he Member who represents the particular area is to be held responsible if communal riots take place in rural areas of his constituency. I would like to quote an old couplet in this regard.

"Masjid to bana lee palbhar mein, Imaan ki hararat walon nein Man apana purana paapi, barson mein naraji ban na sake Iqbal bara upadeshak hai, mun baton se moh leta hai Guphatar ka gazi to yeh bana, kidar ka gazi ban na saka."

My submission is that we are responsible for the communal riots which take place in rural areas. People had elected us to set things right but we pass away time in discussions.

[English]

"For me, God and Truth are convertible terms and if anyone told me that God was of untruth or God was of torture, I would decline to worship him. Therefore, in politics also we have to establish the kingdom of Heaven."

[Translation]

We should always speak truth, some-