Threatened Existence: A Feminist Analysis of the Genocide in Gujarat Report by the International Initiative for Justice (IIJ) December 2003

Glossary

ABVP	Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, All-India Students Council,
	students wing of the Hindu Right
Adivasi	Tribals
Asaram bapu	A Hindu religious leader of North/ Western India with mass appeal
Azaan	Daily prayer announcement from the mosque
Babri Masjid	Historical Monument, Mosque in North India
Bajrang Dal (BD)	The militant organisation of the Hindu Right taking its name from the monkey god
Bazaar	Market
Bhajans	Hindu hymns
Bibi	Hindi/Urdu term for wife, referring here to Muslim woman
Brahmin	The upper most caste in the Hindu caste hierarchy
BJP	Bharatiya Janata Party, political party of the Hindu Right
Chawl, Chali	Tenement housing
Collector,	Government Administrative Head of District
District Collector	
Congress	A major centrist political party, originally known as Indian National
	Congress founded in 1885
Dalit	Oppressed, name adopted by groups belonging to the lowest in the Hindu caste hierarchy or `untouchables'
Dargahs	Shrines that house the graves of Sufi saints
DDO	District Development Officer
Dharma Sansad	Religious Parliament
Dharampatni	Dutiful wife
DSP	Deputy Superintendent of Police, Deputy to the District Head of Police
Durga Vahini	A militant variation of the Hindu Right women's organisation
FIR	First Information Report of a crime prepared by the police
Gujarati	Belonging to Gujarat
Har Har Mahadev	Slogan raised by Hindu warriors while carrying out attacks
Hanuman, Ram, Ganesh	Names of Hindu gods
Hanuman Chalisa	Verses chanted in praise of Hanuman, the monkey god, a favourite disciple of Ram
Hijra	Eunuch
Hindu Rashtra	Hindu Nation
Hindu Sahitya Kendra	Hindu Literature Centre
Hindutva	Ideology and political formation of the Hindu Right
ISI	Inter-Services Intelligence, the Pakistani Intelligence agency
Izzat	Honour
Jai Shri Ram	Victory to the auspicious Ram, a slogan used by the Right Wing or at

	times even believers
Jehad	Holy War
Kar Sevak	Religious volunteers willing to offer free services for community activities
Kalyan Ashram Trust	A welfare Trust of the Hindu Right organisations for mobilising tribals
Madarasas	Schools for Islamic education
Mandir	Temple
Mamlatdaar	A sub-divisional revenue/ administrative official
Matrubhumi	Motherland
Maunds	A measure of weight
Musalman	Muslim
Miya(n)	A Urdu colloquial term for Muslim man, often used derogatorily
MLA	Member of the Legislative State Assembly
Naiks	A lower caste group
Namaz	Muslim prayers
NRI	Non Residential Indian
Panchnama	Investigative report prepared by authorized witnesses appointed by the police
Panchayat	Village level elected body
Patels	A powerful middle caste
POTA	Prevention of Terrorism Act, a law of the government
Qabristan	Muslim cemetery
Ram mandir	Temple for the Hindu god Ram
Rapid Action Force	A commando police force of the government
Rashtriya Swayam Sevika Samiti	The women's wing of the RSS
Ration cards	Cards provided by the Government for buying essential food items at subsidized rates
RSS	Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (National Volunteer Corps/ Self-help Group), the ideological organisation of the Hindu Right
RSS Shakha	Branch of the RSS
Saffron, saffronisation	The colour associated with the Hindu Right in India, hence denoting communalization
'Sandesh'	A local Gujarati daily newspaper
Sangh Parivar	The Sangh (of the RSS) Family, referring to the collective Hindu Right wing organisations
Sanskritisation	A term coined by M.N.Srinivas, sociologist, to indicate the process whereby castes emulate the practices and customs of the brahminical upper castes
Sarkar	Government
Sarpanch	Head of the Village Panchayat (Council)
Sewa Bharati	A Hindu Right organisation working with the cooperative sector
Taluka/ Tehsil	A sub-divisional revenue/ administrative unit
TDO	Taluka Development Officer
Trishuls	Tridents

Varna	The caste system in Hindu religion
VHP	Vishwa Hindu Parishad (World Hindu Council)
Vidya Bharati	A Hindu Right organisation working for advancing education